

The TALON

November 24, 1998

Avila College • 11901 Wornall Road • Kansas City, MO 64145

Volume VII, Issue 3

NEWS BRIEFS

Finals

Final Exams for the fall 1998 semester are Dec. 14-17. See page 8 for a complete exam schedule.

Cocoa & Carols

The annual Cocoa & Carols will be held Sunday Dec. 6. There will be a choir concert in Foyle Hall at 4 p.m. with tree lighting ceremony and reception following. More information on page 7.

World AIDS Day

Avila will recognize Dec. 1 as HIV and AIDS awareness day. Look for information on the day around campus and on page 3.

Thornhill Gallery

On *For the Long Ride*, an assortment of drawings and sculptures by Pal Wright continues until Dec. 4. The Senior Show opens with a reception at 7 p.m. on Dec. 11.

Returning Catholics

Catholics who have been away from the Church and wish to return are invited to "Another Look," a program to re-visit Catholicism, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. For more information call Sr. Donna Ryan at 842-0416 x113.

Volunteer Opportunities

The Heart of America United Way has volunteer opportunities open. If you are interested in volunteering contact Shanelle Varone at 474-5112.

Journey To Bethlehem

On Dec. 4 and 5, from 6-9 p.m., Southminster Presbyterian Church will present "Journey to Bethlehem," a re-creation of the trip from Nazareth to the Nativity. The church is located at 63rd St. and Roe Ave. Admission is free. For more information call 432-3505.

A Celebration Of Life

"A Celebration of Life," a musical and literary presentation, will be held Dec. 5 at 7 p.m. at Club Cabaret, 5024 Main St, K.C. Mo. Cost is \$10, call 561-0351 for tickets.

Internships Available

Coro Kansas City is accepting applications for its summer 1999 internship. Application deadline is Jan. 22. For more information, contact Karen Stubbs at 931-0751.

Computers Fall Short of Expectations

by STEVE TUCKER
staff writer

Has anyone had trouble using the Avila College computer system lately? Numerous problems arose recently as the Avila campus was without the use of e-mail and the Internet for a period of time.

Marc Solomon, head of Computer Services, has been busy this last month.

"This process has been very slow because it is so difficult to analyze what the problem is."

~Marc Solomon

"We've had to fix problems with the computers in Borserine as a result of the fire we suffered. On October 2, we began to see problems with the Local Area Network (LAN), and it was completely down for a period of three days. After we were able to get it working again, we started to have what we call rolling problems, which means that one building or a part of one building would shut down. O'Reilly Hall, Carondelet Hall, Ridgway Hall and the Library all experienced these problems. Being electronic, we are vulnerable to these problems," Solomon said.

As of October 22, everything on campus was thought to be up and running again, but problems in various areas resulted in continuing trouble.

"This process has been very slow, because it is so difficult to analyze what the problem is. During the week of October 5-12, we received many reports of problems in a building, and when we would go check on those problems, they would be operating perfectly," Solomon said.

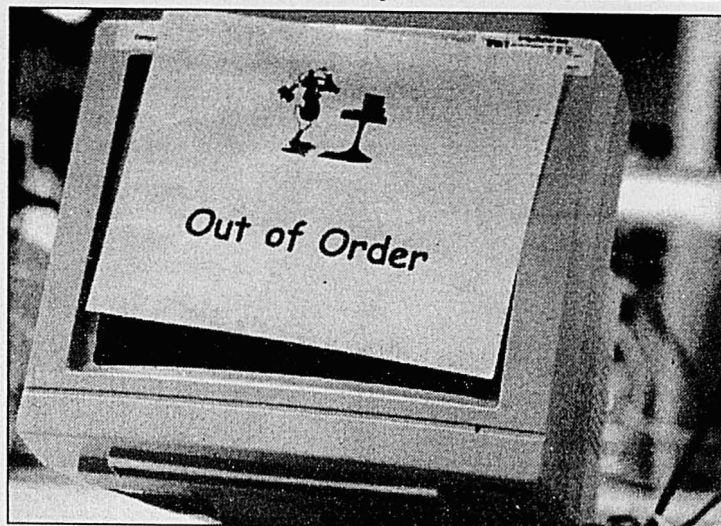
Avila does have a contract with Omni Consultant Group, an outside agency, which has provided support to the Avila Computer Services department in bringing the computer systems back up to par.

More problems persist in the Hooley Bundschu Library. A November 16 trip to the library's computer lab resulted in four computers with "OUT OF ORDER" signs on them and the lab's main printer unable to work.

Kathleen Finegan, Library Director, knows of the problems created by the computer shutdown. "These problems have been very unique to us, because we have added a lot of new computers to the library this year, and as a result, more and more people are using the facilities. When the network shut down, it caused our printers to

fail, because they are connected to the network as well. As a result, we had to help students save to a disk and come out to the lounge area of the library to print off an independent printer. This proved to be very time consuming to the library staff as well as to the students, but it worked out fairly well

have had this year is vandalism. We've had people sitting on the keyboards and breaking them. We've had people deleting the operating system from the computers to the point where we can't do anything with them. If the hardware fails, then that becomes a problem between us and the manu-



The computers around campus are constantly seeking attention.

for all involved," Finegan said.

Finegan also knows that this year's problems haven't been due to insufficient equipment. "The problems we have had in the past have been computer failures, due to a letdown of the actual hardware. This year, we have all new computers which we don't have to worry about failing. The problem we

facturer. If the problems are a result of vandalism, that is strictly a problem between us and the students," Finegan said.

Students who use these computers are aware of the vandalism that is happening.

"The computers themselves are very adequate, probably more than adequate. People go into the lab

Continued on page 3. See Computer Issues

Avila Ranks in Top 15 of Regional Midwest Universities for Diversity

In a recent survey by *U.S. News and World Report*, Avila College was ranked 13th of 429 schools in a listing of regional universities in the midwest with a diverse undergraduate student population.

The Avila College student body is comprised of 1,065 undergraduate students. Avila boasts a 23% minority population, with the largest single group being African-American students at 12%.

To identify the schools where students are most likely to

encounter undergraduates of different racial or ethnic groups, *U.S. News* used a mathematical equation based on the proportion of various groups in each institution's 1997-98 undergraduate student body. The groups included in the calculation are American Indians and Alaskan Natives, Asians and Pacific Islanders, blacks who are non-Hispanic, whites who are non-Hispanic, Hispanics and international students.




Avila was listed in the "Regional Universities" section. Schools in

this category offer a full range of undergraduate programs and provide graduate education at the master's level, but offer few if any doctoral programs.

"Avila's ability to attract such a diverse student group allows us to enhance the educational experience in our classrooms,"

~President Dr. Larry Kramer

"Avila's ability to attract such a diverse student group allows us to enhance the educational experience in our classrooms," President Dr. Larry Kramer said. "The different backgrounds and viewpoints our students present stem from differing cultures because of location and even age differences. This sharing of opinions leads to an enriched educational experience for all."

 <p>Basketball Action Pages 10-11 A look into the teams' recent accomplishments.</p>	 <p>Nasr's Triumph Page 13 Was the myth true or a tall tale?</p>	 <p>Exhibition Page 15 A view into what the Avila 3-D class is creating.</p>
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Our World
and Nation

WORLD

Israel Pulls Troops

Palestinians moved one step closer to achieving their goal of statehood Friday when Israeli troops were pulled out of another 200 square miles of the West Bank. This is the first in a three-phase pullback plan agreed to in recent Israeli/Palestinian peace talks.

Space Module Launched

Zarya, the first segment of a new International Space Station, was launched Friday from Central Asia. Zarya, Russian for Dawn, is the first of over 100 segments that will make up the new station. A multinational partnership of 16 countries have come together on this project; the space station will serve as a laboratory on human habitation of space.

Tension Builds in Kosovo

A cease-fire in the Serbian province of Kosovo may soon dissolve as tension grows. Acts of violence are moving the area back toward war, and threatening the advancements that had been made recently.

UNITED STATES

Starr Testifies

Kenneth Starr testified before a radically split House Judiciary committee on Thursday. Starr defended his investigation of President Clinton and the Lewinsky case. Starr may have helped restore his reputation, but his testimony did little to revive the momentum of the impeachment inquiry.

Seniors' Final Step

The Level IV Capstone Course

by JENNIFER HOMEDALE
staff writer

How does Avila prepare its seniors to be educated people in society?

This year's senior class is the first group to experience the Level IV Capstone Course of the new core curriculum. It was designed to give students the opportunity to use their critical thinking and communication skills to address an issue facing society. With the first section complete, how did the class measure up to campus expectations?

"Quite honestly, nothing I heard that day changed my behaviors or attitudes concerning violence; it was my four years of classes here at Avila that had an effect."

~Klutsarits

History and Organization:

When the faculty redesigned the core curriculum, they divided it into four parts: Level I, Foundations; Level II, Heritage, The Contemporary World and Self; Level III, Applications and Integration; and Level IV, The Educated Person in Society.

A task force of faculty and students, chosen to direct course planning, came up with topic ideas. The entire faculty decided on "Liberation From Violence" as this year's theme. At last spring's registration, juniors voiced their opinions by voting on subtopics. Early this fall, a reading and writing assignment was mailed to about 50 students enrolled in the October 16 class. Students were asked to read a

short book and a packet of articles and studies.

"We wanted to provide students with perspectives from all the disciplines, to give them different definitions and causes of violence," committee chairperson Sue McCally of the Education Dept. said.

Then students answered five extensive questions over the readings and turned them in three weeks before the class meeting.

What Happened That Day?

Committee members planned a day-long seminar packed with an anticipation survey, a short film, small group discussions, panel discussions, a keynote speaker, a problem-solving session and a volunteer fair.

"We wanted a practical experience that would allow students to integrate their skills and give all the seniors on campus a similar experience," Roena Haynie said.

McCally said that the morning was intended for information gathering through the panel discussions and the afternoon allowed time for students to problem solve on issues affecting the Kansas City community.

"The keynote speaker, [Jim Nunn, Chief Deputy of Kansas City, Missouri Police Department] offered a lot of solutions for real problems. He really focused his speech around the themes of the day," Fran Betzen said.

After the speaker, students broke up into groups and problem solved from perspectives such as the police, school system, and home association and then presented their ideas to the class.

McCally said that it was still undecided what exactly would be done with the suggestions, but that

the committee was thinking of sending them on to the city council, mayor's office or the *KC Star*.

"I liked that we went from event to event. The day went by so fast."

~Ginny Mielcarek

Reflections:

About 50 students served as guinea pigs for the first session. What was their response?

Elaine Lane, a Business major, was disappointed. "It was an awfully broad subject to cover all in one day--I would have liked to address some of the questions from the reading assignment, so we could focus on more specific issues," Lane said.

Tina Rodriguez, a Med-Tech major, also said her initial response was she was a little disappointed. "It would have been better if the small group leaders would have had questions. There was a lot of dead space," Rodriguez said.

Two of the group leaders, Julie Klutsarits, a Psychology major and Michael Kruse, a Theater major, were frustrated because they were given little direction on leading the discussions. "We weren't given any guidelines or allowed to view the film ahead of time so that we could get discussions going," Kruse said.

Panel discussions included topics on street violence and domestic abuse. Ginny Mielcarek, an English major, enjoyed the panel discussions and said she learned a lot during the day. "I liked that we went from event to event. The day went by so fast," Mielcarek said.

For others, the class, which fell on Avila Day, seemed to be a waste of time. "What we talked about that

day could have been covered in three hours," Andrea O'Rear, a Biology major, said.

At the end of the day, students were asked to write a reflection paper regarding the class and their attitudes about violence.

"Quite honestly, nothing I heard that day changed my behaviors or attitudes concerning violence; it was my four years of classes here at Avila that had an effect," Klutsarits said.

Kruse agreed that the class was really more of a test of the curriculum than of the student's knowledge.

In the weeks following the class, the committee plans on meeting to review the evaluations. Although no major changes to the format are expected in the spring section, in order to be fair to the fall students, "We will ask more specific questions to get meaningful discussions started," McCally said.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Sue McCally • Chair
Education Department

Roena Haynie
Social Science Department

Nancy Cervetti
English Department

Eric Anderson
Physics Department

Students
Fran Betzen
Katie Koettker

Sr. Marie Joan Harris
Academic Dean

Clarifying the Parking Policy

by FUMIKO HARA
staff writer

When you are in a hurry to your morning class and there are no parking spaces to park your car, have you ever thought, "Why can't I park in a handicapped parking space?" or "What would really happen if I did?"

"We have people in wheel chairs in competition with people in Buicks"

~Erica Berg

A committee is now looking at clarifying the Avila parking policy due to safety and security problems.

Student senate noticed that a lot of parking laws are violated daily. People who park in no parking or

disability parking areas are the greatest concern. This is not only a legal issue, it includes safety problems and an ethical issue, and everybody in the community should be concerned.

"We have people in wheel chairs in competition with people in Buicks," Erica Berg, NAHSM senator, said.

Student senators have started to develop better ways to enforce Avila parking policies. One solution is to ask everyone at Avila College to register their cars. The Senate has considered giving a parking sticker to people who register their cars. Another solution is fining people who break the laws.

Joe Deighton, Associate Dean for Student Affairs, said first it is necessary to better mark and paint clearer lines to indicate no parking and disability parking areas. This

makes the violation more obvious.

Right now, Deighton is considering a Student Senate proposal for an improved parking policy.

He will decide whether or not their suggestions are good improvements and then pass on his recommendations to other college officials. There are problems with the suggestions Student Senate first proposed, including the difficult task of registering all students' cars.

Senate is looking at two sections in this issue. The first is finding a way to put a stop to the problem of people parking in illegal spaces. The other part of the picture, which Senate will continue to consider,

involves a larger issue concerning residence hall parking

and limited spaces.

"This is one group proposal, so I am interested in receiving input from other members of campus," Deighton said. He welcomes the opportunity to hear other Avila opinions and encourages students to call him at 942-8400 ext. 2228.

"We hope that once people see it is for their own safety and security that they will be more supportive," Berg said.



Want to Voice
Your Concerns?

~ Please Contact ~
Joe Deighton

942-8400
ext. 2228

Students Help Clean Up Campus



Chris Crudden and Sarah Clark help out with beautification of Avila's campus by collecting leaves. photos by Brian L. Stuckey

by KARI DONNELL
staff writer

Students, staff and faculty of Avila College pulled their rakes and hedge clippers out of the shed recently and got to work. About 60 individuals affiliated with the college volunteered their time and efforts Nov. 6 to help beautify the Avila campus.

"We really wanted to spruce things up around campus," Director of Admissions Todd Moore said.

more than three hours. Music was provided in the quad to add fun to the work.

"It was amazing to see everyone working together. I don't think anyone even had to ask what time it was," junior volunteer Mindy Corder said.

Perhaps one of

the more touching moments came at the end of the afternoon as Student Senate presented a tree and memorial for the late Ray Nastase.

"His [Ray's] spirit has always

"It was amazing to see everyone working together. I don't think anyone even had to ask what time it was."

~Mindy Corder

been present on campus, but this year there wasn't anything to sym-

bolize it. The tree is something that will continue to grow, and will forever mark Ray's love of Avila," Corder said.

The tree was picked to represent the life and energy Nastase brought to campus. It is located outside Marian Center.

After the festivities, volunteers were invited to a picnic inside Marian Center. Hungry workers feasted on hamburgers and hot dogs, free of charge.

A group of concerned faculty came up with this year's clean-up project, and they hope to form an on-going student committee in charge of campus beautification in the future. The faculty included Moore, Director of Development and Alumni Relations Mary Ellen Clark, Associate Dean of Student Affairs Joe Deighton and Assistant Athletic Director Jim Huber, Jr.

The future plan is to continue campus clean-up each year and possibly improve maintenance in buildings surrounding campus. Another beautification day is already being planned for spring,



Nastase Memorial tree was dedicated at the end of the afternoon.

and according to Clark, several students who missed this work day are promising to be present for the next.

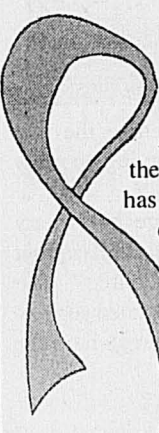
"We just get used to seeing the same old things when we need to look at our campus the way visitors would see it," Moore said. "Besides, we all want to live and work in nice surroundings."



Ryan Orton and Joe Deighton place mulch around a tree.

AIDS Awareness Day Set at Avila

by LEAH MOORE
staff writer



HIV and AIDS Awareness Day is Dec. 1 at Avila.

This is National Awareness Day — the first time a day has been designated to educate and inform students about HIV, the AIDS virus.

Director of Wellness and Health Services Nurse Carol Frevert, and

Coordinator of New Student Development and Ridgway Hall Director Alicia Hofmann were interested in designating a special day on campus for this purpose.

Several students came to Frevert and Hofmann with a similar idea, and a committee was formed to discuss what day would be designated and what method would be used to educate students about the disease.

The committee includes Frevert, Hofmann, and students Erica

Berg from the Pre-Med. Club, Linda Davis from the African American Students Association and Rachell Nord from Senate.

The committee has many ideas for HIV and AIDS Awareness Day, including distributing ribbons and buttons to students during the day.

"We're going to have a signature panel where we will have figures of people on a bulletin board, and if your life has been touched by HIV or AIDS in any way, whether it's through friends, or someone you know or a family member, then you can put a ribbon on a person and see how many lives have been touched," Frevert said.

The signature panel will be located in Marian Center. Other ideas include putting AIDS Awareness Day posters in classrooms and handing out pamphlets and other materials to students.

"...put a ribbon on a person and see how many lives have been touched."

~ Carol Frevert

Members of the committee are continuing to meet to finalize definite plans for the day.

Don't Forget to Wear Your Ribbon on December 1st.

Ribbons will be passed out on campus during the day or can be picked up at Marian Center.

Computer Issues

continued from page 1

and abuse them and then complain to Computer Services that they don't get fixed quickly enough. People tear the computers down faster than they are able to be fixed," senior Rodney Wittenberg said.

The problems seemed to hit home to faculty, staff and students on campus.

"I think we ought to get our \$75 Technology Fee back and use it to purchase our own computers. I would rather take out a loan and be able to rely on my computer than to put up with these. This has been a nuisance to me and hundreds of other students who rely on this system to do our work for class," sophomore Michelle Ready said.

The problems range from failing printers to no Internet access and a loss of e-mail, items often relied upon by faculty, students and staff.

"The staff has become very dependent on computers, just as the students have, and when that system shuts down, it definitely hampers our ability to work," Vice President and Dean of Student Affairs Tom Lease said.

"Computers are very, very important to a college campus. The students obviously need them to do their work in classes. The faculty and staff also use them for class work. One aspect that is often overlooked is the use of e-mail. We often communicate with one another through the touch of a button, and when that option is not available, it makes communicating difficult on campus. Computers are relied upon for business affairs, administration, registration, admissions, our Internet web site and so

forth. I would say that computers are extremely important to any college campus," Lease said.

Solomon realizes the problems students have had with the computers. He said, "We have done our best to try to keep the student labs up and running as much as possible. We haven't been able to make the residence hall an immediate priority, but the library has been one of the first places we try to fix," Solomon said.

Solomon also knows of the predicament this has put the college in. "A lot of people are very frustrated by this event, including myself, because my job is to provide services to the campus and that is very difficult to do when your equipment will not work. For the most part, people have been very patient and polite and realize that we aren't just sitting around waiting for this problem to fix itself," Solomon said.

"We have installed environmental sensors in every computer room to make sure this problem doesn't happen again. These sensors check for temperature, smoke, fire, water moisture, power outages and so forth. We also have hired an out-

side agency to help us get through this situation."

"We are looking at upgrading the operating system on the network to a more current release, because the more recent version will provide more stability that isn't available now. I don't expect these problems to occur again," Solomon said.

The campus shutdown has put Avila in a bit of a bind, but many students don't feel the effects to be as troublesome as others. "We have every opportunity to get our work done. If students wouldn't wait until the night before to do their work, they wouldn't run into these setbacks and get all upset over something no one can control. There are many places, including other libraries, where students can go to do their work," said senior Anthony Haige.

"As far as we know, everything is available and working well. We've heard some people say they've had trouble accessing their e-mail, but we don't know if that's an individual problem at this point or a more widespread problem, and we haven't identified it yet. Be patient and everything will be available shortly," Solomon said.

Computer Complaints

Contact Mark Solomon

Computer Services ext. 2216

located in lower level of O'Reilly

Avila Communications Department Gets Avid

by DEREK KILGORE
staff writer

Avila College has acquired video equipment that should allow the communication students to become more acquainted with the ever changing world of television and video production.

The Avid, a new computer-based program, allows students to integrate the old with the new. Footage that is taped on a conventional super VHS camcorder may be converted to a digital format when it is placed on the hard drive of the computer.

Once it has been converted to the digital format, you can begin to edit the video. The Avid is a versatile program that is widely used in the professional world of video production. The Avid editor has rapidly become a standard in production suites in the professional world today.

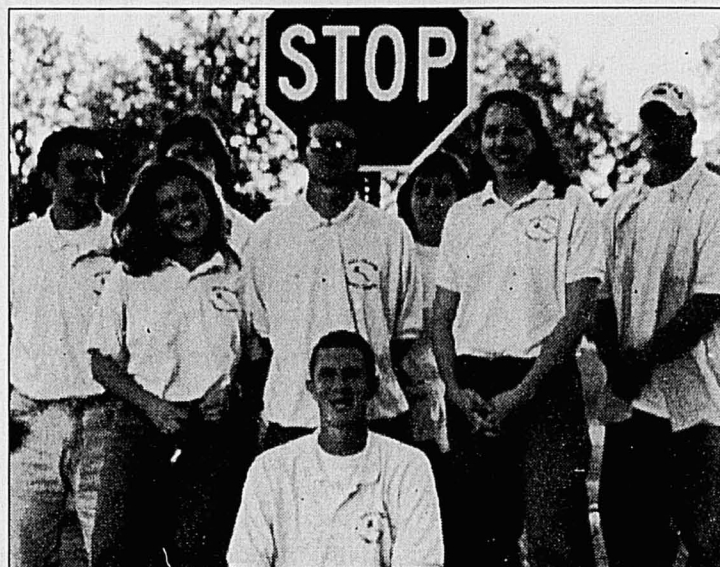
Avila already has plans to purchase at least one more Avid computer so more students can reap the benefits of the Avid systems.

Anyone familiar with video editing is acquainted with the infamous video toaster, a conventional video editor that works by editing linear

tapes. The Avid allows students to edit directly on the computer's hard drive without the worry of destroying the original tapes. When the project is finished, it can then be converted back to VHS format.

Linear editing is quickly becoming a thing of the past because of advances in equipment like the Avid.

For Avila students who are not Communications majors and do not have the opportunity to use the editing equipment, the results of students' work can be seen in shows, such as PsychoTV, played on Avila Television.

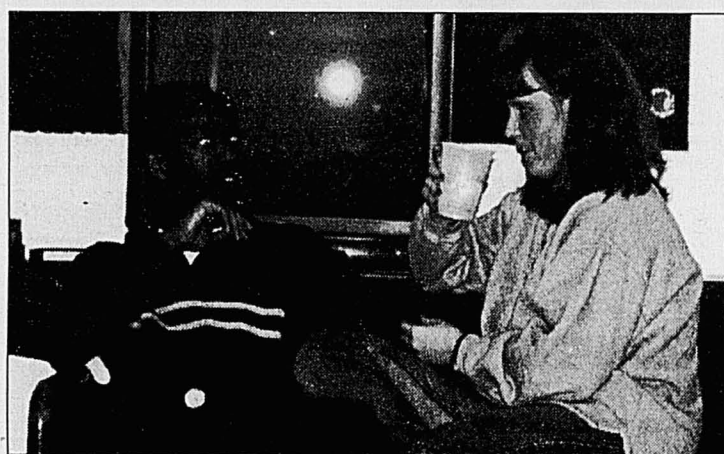


Avila Senators Brian Stuckey, Sarah Berkgigler, Erica Berg, Mike Muller, Terry Mykins, Annie Oshel, Jenny Lujin and Ryan Bradberry pose with the stop sign recently erected at the entrance to the O'Reilly parking lot.
photo by Brian L. Stuckey

S.O.S. Program At Avila



Gene Schmidt talks about the S.O.S. Foundation during a recent program.



Sophomore Julian Jackson and Senior Julie Klutsarits participated in a skit to help illustrate the topics being discussed at the program.
photos by Brian L. Stuckey



Peggy Schmidt discussing issues with students at Avila.

Gene and Peggy Schmidt presented a program on the Speak Out For Stephanie Foundation in the Carondelet third floor lounge recently. Third floor RA Mindy Corder organized the program.

The Speak Out For Stephanie Foundation is a not-for-profit organization which works to raise awareness and change laws about sexual predators.

The Schmidts talked about the death of their daughter, Stephanie, and about the foundation. They explained current laws and what laws the S.O.S. Foundation has helped changed. They also answered questions and discussed students' concerns.

Avila Presidents Meet Together

by DENISE BRADSHAW
staff writer

The Council of Presidents is a group of student leaders who discuss upcoming events and ideas to improve Avila. While the group has been a part of the Avila community before, it has not been active for a few years.

This year new Associate Dean for Student Affairs Joe Deighton and Coordinator of Campus Activities Blake Fry have been working to get the group active. They see a potential in this group to cause growth in campus organizations and activities.

Students who hold office in any campus organization are especially encouraged to become a part of the group, but all members of every organization are invited.

The Council of Presidents is a "forum for ideas," according to Fry.

Through this group, the leaders of different campus organizations can get together to share ideas and work on joint activities. The groups can work together on events and to change policies.

"The Council of Presidents is a place for better communication among the groups, and it will make the groups more aware of the opportunities that other organizations are offering," Julie Klutsarits, President of the Avila Ambassadors, said.

"Hopefully, this will be another way for students to voice themselves through their leaders," Erica Berg, President of the Avila Medical Society, said. "I hope it will help unite campus organizations and help us work toward the common goals of awareness and activism."

Student Union Board Representatives Head to Omaha for NACA Conference

by RYAN GLASGOW
staff writer

Every year, around the first of November, schools from all around the Mid-West, in states like Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Wyoming and New Mexico come together for a conference. This conference is the National Association For Campus Activities (NACA).

"I think it was the best conference we have had in years."

~ Blake Fry

This year's conference included about 550 total people, including a delegation of students on Avila's Student Union Board (SUB).

The conference has two main

focuses. These are educational sessions and a showcase.

The educational session includes methods for strong leadership and handling diversity. These are things that can create a better campus environment for the students.

The showcase sessions include everything from artists to comedians, musicians, etc. They perform their skills in hopes that the attending schools will invite them to come to their campus and present their programs.

Most schools in the area use what is called a co-op to help fund the expenses for the campus activity. This is where schools in the same area split the bill for the person or persons to come and perform.

Blake Fry and members of the leadership team for our region took himself and 10 students to the con-

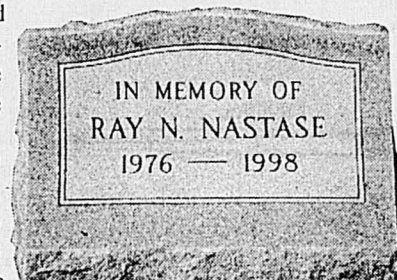
ference this year. Fry felt it went very well.

"I think it was the best conference we have had in years," Fry said.

The conference is held roughly the same time every year; there is also a national conference, but the cost of attending that is prohibitive for Avila.

"NACA is a good way for programming boards to see acts, like comedians, musical groups and speakers, to bring to their school. NACA is fun because you get to meet new people from all around the region," Katie Boyle said.

Students who are interested in attending the conference next year or becoming a part of SUB, should contact Fry in his office in Marian Center.



Student Senate News

by SARAH BERKBIGLER
contributing writer

Senate is proud to report that the semester is flying by with great success. All of the goals set by Senate in September have been completed or are in the process of being completed.

Recent accomplishments include the memorial to Ray Nastase and participation in Campus Beautification.

We are also starting to extend ourselves on campus by forming a partnership with the Alumni Association for future events.

Senators Erica Berg and Terry Mykins are continuing to work with the Associate Dean to establish new parking violation policies. All senators continue to stay busy through their involvement in department meetings and many committees.

Arrangements for the 1999 dinner with the Trustees are in progress. Suggestions for the discussion were reported at the November meeting of the Trustee Committee on Student Affairs. Senate has suggested the following topics to be

discussed with the Trustees: changing technology and Avila's pace with technology; Avila's response to a future organization supporting homosexual rights and awareness; and the issue of pending legislation concerning student privacy. Senate looks forward to the dinner with the Trustees and other student leaders.

Senate would like to announce freshman Ryan Orton as a senate intern. Intern Orton has become

very involved in Senate the past few months and is serving on many committees.

Senate meetings are held every Thursday at 4 p.m. in the Barefoot Room in Marian Center. The Senate is looking for any suggestion the student body may have for next semester.

Avila Represented in Minnesota at MACURH

by DENISE BRADSHAW
staff writer

Avila students and the Residence Hall Association (RHA) were represented at St. Cloud University in St. Cloud, Minnesota earlier this month.

Erica Berg, Chris Crudden, Tracy Friedeck, Joe Maestas, Brian Stuckey and advisor Alicia Hofmann attended the Midwest Affiliation of College and University Residence Halls (MACURH) conference November 13-16.



The students decorated the van for the ten-hour trip to Minnesota.

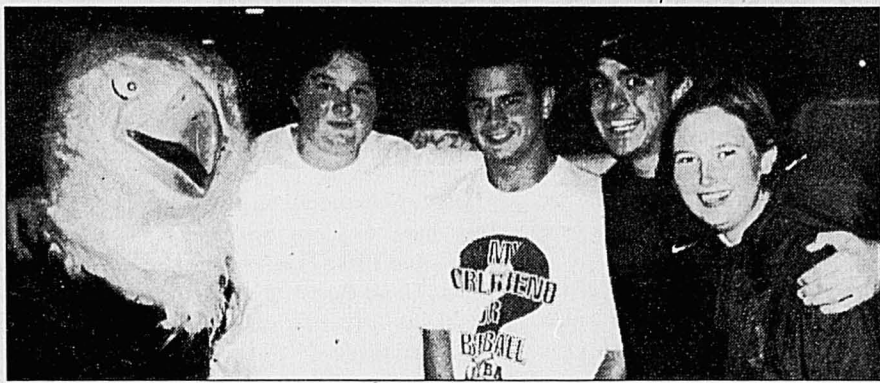
MACURH is a regional division of the National Association of College and University Residence Halls. Schools from Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota and

South Dakota are in the midwest region. Schools of all sizes and types participate in the organization.

The MACURH conference is a student-run event, and the MACURH organization is also student-run, like Avila's RHA.

The groups that attended discussed ideas to improve residence hall living and leadership training. The groups also prepared for the next regional conference, the national conference in May, and received regional awards.

Students and advisors who attend MACURH go to different meetings and programs.



Erica Berg, Joe Maestas, Brian Stuckey and Chris Crudden posing with the famous Avila Eagle.

Crudden, an Avila sophomore, presented a program on women's issues called "Calling All Sisters." The program went very well with good discussion by the students who attended. Crudden intends to eventually present the program in the residence halls here at Avila, as well.

Other Avila delegates attended programs put on by students from a variety of other schools. A great deal of information was garnered from these programs, as well as several other ideas for programs which could be put on in Avila's residence halls.

Avila was the second smallest college represented at MACURH. This did not stop their excitement. Friedeck donned the eagle mascot outfit to entertain and excite the crowd during the conference opening. The students overlooked the cold Minnesota weather and the 10-hour one-way drive to have fun, spread Avila's name and trade information.

"The students got along well and were very excited," Hofmann said.



Brian Stuckey, Chris Crudden, Tracy Friedeck, Joe Maestas, advisor Alicia Hofmann, and Erica Berg (clockwise) enjoying dinner at MACURH.

photos courtesy of Chris Crudden

Financial Aid Office Provides Vital Services For Students

by LEAH MOORE
staff writer

Look in the Financial Aid office at the beginning of the school year, and you will find an office filled with many students.

Nearly 85% of Avila students receive some type of financial aid. Not many students attend school all four years without receiving some form of aid.

Avila's financial aid offers a variety of grants, loans and work study programs.

A few of the grants offered are the Avila Residence Grant, Federal Pell Grant and St. Teresa of Avila award.

The Avila Residence Grants award up to \$1,300 to students who demonstrate financial need and live on campus.

The Federal Pell Grant offers students who demonstrate financial need up to \$2,470.

The St. Teresa of Avila award is given to freshmen who graduate from a Catholic high school and live on campus.

Several loans available to students are the Federal Subsidized Stafford loan available from private lenders to students, the Federal

Unsubsidized loan available to independent and non-independent students, and the Federal Perkins loan funds up to \$1,000 loaned to students who demonstrate financial need.

Cindy Butler, director of Financial Aid, recommends students apply early for assistance. Butler said, "If students are having any problems, they need to come as early as possible so they can get help. The earlier students apply, the better off they are."

Christal Williams, coordinator of Financial Aid, suggests that students remember to apply for financial aid every year. "Remember to apply. You can't get in if you don't apply," Williams said.

Students may also take advantage of the Federal work study program which is need based or Avila's work program that is non-need based. Students can work on several different jobs, including community service, general office work and many different departments around campus.

For more information students can visit the Financial Aid office in Blasco Hall or call 942-8400 ext. 3600.

The Holy Spirit in College Students

by KRISTEN REESE
staff writer

"Hope in the Heartland, the Breath of Heaven Within Us" was the theme of the Missouri Association of Catholic College Students' (MACCS) yearly convention held Nov. 13 through 15.

The convention took place in Jefferson City. Four Avila students attended the convention. They were sophomores Nathan Banfield, Katie Boyle, Maggie Nelson and Laurie Purk.

"It combined the retreat element and the convention element," Nelson said.

Those attending the convention split up into smaller groups and went to different sessions. A couple of different topics participants could choose from were 'Sex and Love' or 'Faith Like a Child.' Other things they did included daily prayer services and a dance on Saturday night.

Most of the colleges in Missouri participated in the event. The schools that had a big student turnout were

University of Missouri at Rolla, Truman State University and University of Missouri at Columbia.

"It was nice to meet other people

"Hope in the Heartland, the Breath of Heaven Within Us."

~ Theme of MACCS

that have a different experience in the same religion," said Boyle.

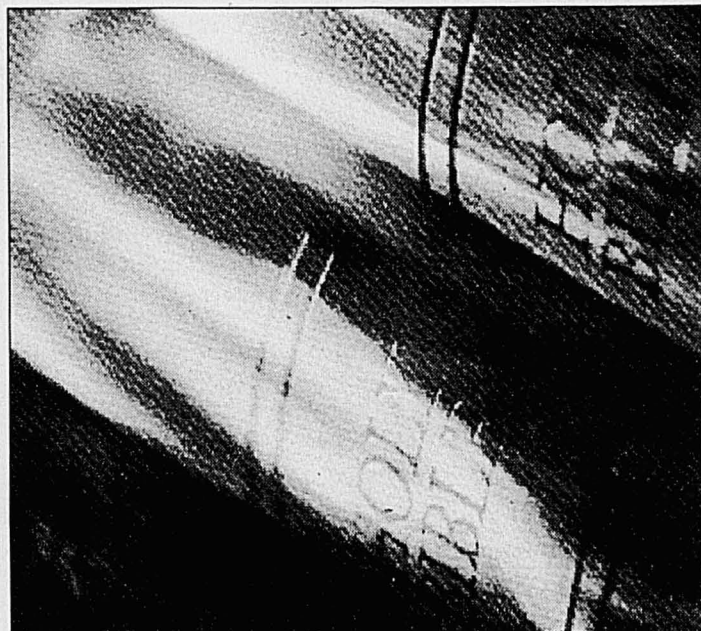
The students that attended came

away with an inspirational experience.

"I learned the power of the Holy Spirit guides and protects us; the Holy Spirit is always with us," Purk said.

The students also learned from each other. "People can have so many ways to show the spirit and still be Catholic," said Nelson.

The convention gathered hundreds of students together for a common cause: to show their faith in the Holy Spirit.



features

Avila's Haunted Tunnels Succeed

by ROSSANA VALLAZZA
staff writer

\$31.50 and dozens of canned goods were collected for Harvesters on Oct. 29 for the second annual Haunted Tunnels benefit.

The Residence Hall Association and the Resident Assistants banded together to make this event a success.

The tunnels near the dance studio and underneath Ridgeway Hall were closed off in order to put together a series of haunted scenes for students, faculty and their families to enjoy.

The fright level in the tunnels could be toned down for smaller children and raised for the older visitors.

The week leading up to the event was the most important part of the preparation. Sets consisting of

tombstones and other scary objects are made or put together by R.H.A. and the R.A.'s. One of the scariest scenes in the tunnels was a psychiatric hospital scene.

"Students work very hard on this. They have to clean up on that night," said Blake Fry, head of the Student Union Board, "I'm just the guy at the door who collects the money and the food."

Attendance at the Haunted Tunnels was very high. A line from 8 P.M. to 9:30 P.M. ensured that this was an event not to be missed.

Blake Fry said, "We greatly appreciate the Sisters and the entire Avila community to let us close the tunnels during what is typically a cold time of year."

Next year we can expect the Haunted Tunnels again as a benefit for the community and as a good time for Avila students.



Sara Peters and Mike Muller recieved 4 tickets to the Chiefs/Broncos game and VIP tent as their prize for winning Best Overall Costume for their depiction of the shower scene from *Psycho*.

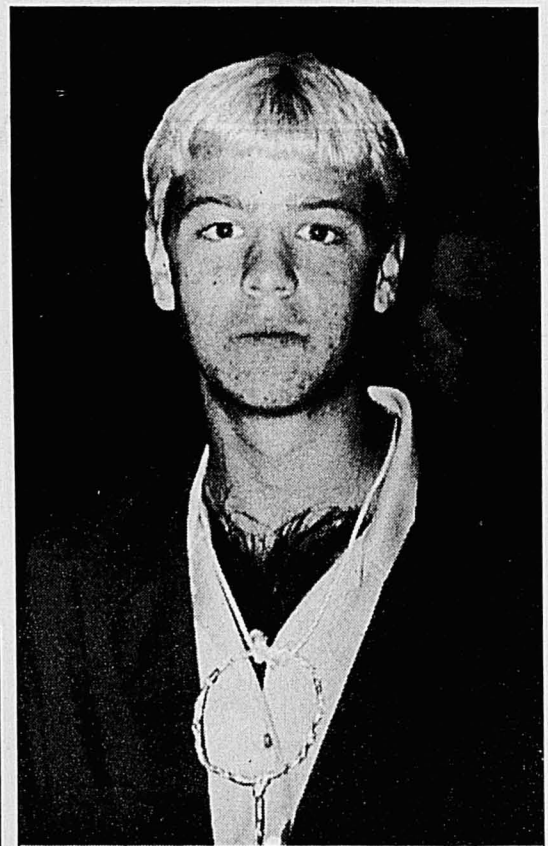
Halloween Dance



Erica Berg attempts to scare away Haunted Tunnel visitors.



Mindy Corder as "Judge Judy".



Marc Covoni enjoying the Halloween Dance.



Tracy chases off Haunted Tunnel visitors.



Therese Cox clowning around.



Rachell Nord having fun at the dance.

Cocoa & Carols

Sunday, December 6

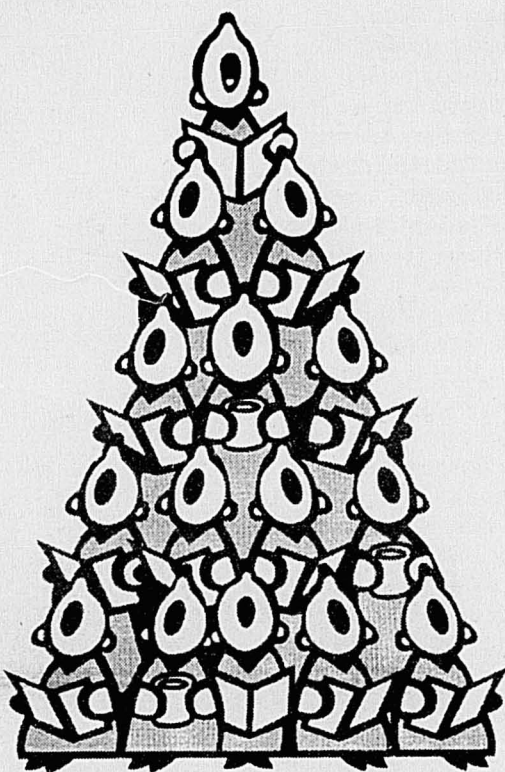
Concert 1 PM in Foyle Hall Chapel

Tree Lighting

immediately following in Quad

Reception

following in the Alumni Lounge of Marian Center



Sponsored by: Department of Humanities,
Alumni Department, Office of Student Affairs

Cocoa & Carols

by MELANIE SCHMITTLING
staff writer

If you are looking for a little holiday fun to brighten your spirit, Cocoa and Carols is just the thing! Cocoa and Carols is an annual Avila event providing fun and entertainment for the entire Avila community. This year the festivities are on Sunday, Dec. 6 at 4 p.m. in Foyle Hall.

"We're trying to make this event even bigger this year; we'd like to have more people involved."

~ Blake Fry

The 33-member Avila College Singers will entertain everyone with a holiday choir concert.

Following the concert, the event proceeds into the quad for a tree-lighting ceremony. This is followed by a few rounds of everyone singing holiday carols around

the decorated tree.

Following the carols, everyone is invited to a reception in the Alumni Lounge, with cocoa and cookies for all.

This is the sixth year for Avila's Cocoa and Carols. The annual event is a cooperative project between the Alumni Association, The Humanities Department and Student Affairs.

Coordinator of Campus Activities Blake Fry said, "We're trying to make this event even bigger this year; we'd like to have more people involved." Fry is part of a group that is considering ways to make the event more festive.

"Cocoa and Carols offers a holiday gathering for the Avila community to bring the campus together," said Mary Ellen Clark, Director of Development & Alumni Relations. Everyone in the Avila community is welcome, as well as all Avila alumni and neighboring homes in the south Kansas City area.

International Student Spotlight

by MARY E. LOPEZ
staff writer

"I am worried about my brother," Momo Yamamuro said looking down at the floor. When asked why, Yamamuro responded, "He is getting too famous."

Yamamuro is a 21-year-old sophomore at Avila. She is from a town a short distance from Tokyo in Japan.

I am worried about my brother...he is getting too famous."

~ Momo Yamamuro

As I sat with Yamamuro, I realized that this was the first time I had taken the time to get to know her. I inquired further about her brother. She said that he is in a famous band called Crunch in Japan. Yamamuro said he is becoming arrogant.

"Mei calls me some nights and tells me that he was just on TV," Yamamuro said. She thinks he is getting a little too much attention for a 19-year-old.

Yamamuro does not desire to be in front of the camera, but she does want to be behind the scenes like her mother. For this reason, Yamamuro decided to be a media communication major.

"I like my mother's job. It looks like fun," Yamamuro said. Her mother is a television director for TBS Japan TV.

Yamamuro is currently writing magazine articles and sending them to Japan hoping she will get published.

"I did want to be a writer in the United States, but it is so hard to write how you want to in another language," Yamamuro said.

Cooking is another talent Yamamuro likes to share. On the weekends she gets together with her friends and makes a big dinner.

She says she cooks too much food to just feed herself.

"I did want to be a writer in the United States, but it is so hard to write how you want to in another language."

~ Momo Yamamuro

She also likes going out to the movies. Her favorite movie currently is *Mars Attacks*. Why? Because Michael J. Fox dies in it. "It is funny to see someone so famous and so good looking die at the beginning of a movie," Yamamuro said.

If there was one thing she could change about living in the United States, she says it would be to have a cat. She said, "I love cats, but my mother won't let me have one here." She owns two cats at home, and she misses their company.

Thanksgiving Break Away from Home

by FUMIKO HARA
staff writer

During Thanksgiving break, almost all Avila College students and staff go home to spend time with their families. However, some of them have to spend Thanksgiving day differently, away from their homes. Especially people who are from far-away states and international students who cannot go home because the break is too short to spend money for an expensive plane ticket.

"It's too far and expensive to buy a ticket for just four or five days."

~ Kelly Hatfield

"It's too far and expensive to buy a ticket for just four or five days," Junior Kelly Hatfield said. Last Thanksgiving break, he did not go home. Instead, his parents visited Kansas City from their home in California and they went out to eat dinner together. His parents plan to come to Kansas City again to see their son this year.

Some students have come up with another way to celebrate the holiday—they go home with their friends and spend time with friends' families. Freshman K.C. Moultrie decided not to go to his home in Utah.

Instead, he plans to visit a basketball teammate's family near Kansas City. "I won't have as much fun because I won't be with my family, but I'll eat food and watch two big football games with his family," Moultrie said.

Because Thanksgiving is a special

day to celebrate with families, people who cannot go home may feel lonely. Even though they have other plans, they may miss being with their families.

However, Alicia Hofmann, coordinator of new student development, plans an interesting alternative to keep her from missing her family on Thanksgiving Day. Since she has to stay in

Ridgway during the break to support resident students, she will celebrate the holiday without going home.

"I plan to serve dinner at the homeless shelter. This is a way that my family celebrates Thanksgiving. It's fun because it's just a way that my family can all be together even

"I plan to serve dinner at the homeless shelter. This is a way that my family celebrates Thanksgiving."

~ Alicia Hofmann

though we are in different places," Hofmann said.

International students also look for ways to enjoy the break. Because almost all international students do not have Thanksgiving Day in their countries, they observe the day in different ways.

"I don't have Thanksgiving in my country, so I don't feel the need to do any special event," Japanese

sophomore Tomio Iwasaki said.

Iwasaki often enjoys the same things, such as cooking Japanese food and watching Japanese long-series drama, during Thanksgiving break as he does on other breaks.



Last Thanksgiving, he took a four-hour car trip with his many Japanese friends to an outlet mall near the Lake of the Ozarks. He said the break is a good time to get rid of stress because he can do whatever he wants, no matter how long it takes and how tired he gets.

In contrast, for some international students, Thanksgiving is a good opportunity to experience American culture. Taiwanese freshman Chiao'ya Chang visited an American family with one of her Taiwanese friends last Thanksgiving.

She said she had fun eating Thanksgiving dinner, such as turkey, bread and cake, with the American family. For this Thanksgiving break, she plans to travel to St. Louis with her Taiwanese friends to see more American culture.

To enjoy a different Thanksgiving day, it might be a good idea to go home with friends or invite an international student whom you know to your Thanksgiving dinner.

Campus Living Offers Convenience

by TERRELL TIGNER
staff writer

Freedom, sharing, watching movies, talking with friends, roommates, loud music and busy phone lines. These things, and more, are all a part of life on campus here at Avila College.

"I like not having my parents telling me what to do all of the time," said Brendan Hall.

Hall resides in the Ridgeway Dormitory on the fifth floor. Hall also points out that being on campus makes it convenient to use campus facilities. Other students also agree with that concept.

"Being on campus makes it easier to get to classes," said Janah Doerhoff, a Freshman and Biology major, who lives on the third floor of Carondelet.

"Also, while on campus, it is more possible to meet and make friends, and be more involved in activities," said Doerhoff.

But staying on campus can also have its challenges. International student and Business Administration major Hideo Ueda talks about one of these. "The dorms are usually clean, but sometimes people do not clean up after themselves," said Ueda.

Another issue on campus is the number of available phone lines. Chad Lewis, a senior Marketing major, remembers this problem. "It was a pain when you wanted to call someone but couldn't get out because too many people were using the phone lines," said Lewis,

who spent his first two years on campus, then chose to move into an apartment.

Olga Artman and Aloyna Arganistova were two familiar faces on campus until they decided to move off campus. "We get to have our own shower," said Arganistova. This, of course, is a major difference of living on and off campus.

"We don't get to see as many people, but if you are older, it is better to live off campus because you have more freedom and privacy," said Artman, who believes being on campus is better for freshman because they can meet more people.

Although being off campus can have its advantages, for some students being on campus is a better choice. International student Kattisak Terawanich, better known as Diego, moved off campus last semester but recently moved back on campus. "I feel more safe on campus and I can be around my friends more," said Terawanich.

"Safety is very important, especially for international students," said Hiroaki Sano, an International student who likes being on campus.

The trend seems to be that, the older the students get, the more likely it is for them to move off campus. Some people prefer to be on campus and some prefer to be off. But whatever the choice is, all have one thing in common, they are still students.

Advantages and Drawbacks for Commuting

by KARI DONNELL
staff writer

With 162 Avila students living in the residence halls, approximately 1,045 other students are left to commute to and from class every day. This seemingly popular trend is not without its advantages and disadvantages.

Avila is a small, private institution. Private is a term used to describe the school as a whole — not the individual lives of students who attend it.

"Living off campus keeps me out of the gossip circle," senior nursing major Nick Petelin said.

Those living on campus are much more susceptible to tall tales due to their frequent interaction with many students, while commuters have the option of leaving campus at any given time.

Dealing with skeletons drawn out of the closet may be minor compared to off campus costs, however.

Driving to and from classes each day is enough to put a hole in your pocketbook, and mom may not be available to prepare her famous sack lunches. Many commuters frequent the fast food chains surrounding Avila to avoid an extra trip home.

"I don't like going to 'Mc Nasty' anymore, but they have the 99-cent specials and I'll save money anyway I can," said senior Chris Ervin.

Freshman Angie Meador enjoys life at home but searches for a place to lay her head while on campus.

"Not having to deal with a roommate is great, but in between classes I always need a place to rest."

Living at home is another route that several Avila students take to save on living expenses. Junior Tara Gustafson said she saves money on food and rent just by living with her family. Although she finds it more difficult to build strong relationships with people on campus, she enjoys the escape from the school atmosphere.

Senior social work major Sarah Berkbigler and Joe Deighton, the Associate Dean of Student Affairs, feel off-campus students do not have enough opportunities to get involved in campus life — a situation they are working to improve. According to Berkbigler, the residents on campus have the Residence Hall Association (RHA) to represent them, but commuters do not have a voice.

Berkbigler and Deighton are working together to form an organization called Commuter Connections. The purpose of this group is to get commuters involved in campus activities and encourage them to stick around campus.

"Currently there isn't a place for commuters to really hang out. We would love to add more games to the snack bar and make it more like a coffee house, but we don't have the funding yet," Berkbigler said.

Anyone interested in Commuter Connections may contact Berkbigler through her mailbox in the Student Affairs office.

Final Exam Schedule

December 14 - 17

Regular Class Time
Finals Meeting Time

MWF 8-8:50 a.m.
M Dec. 14 8-9:50 a.m.

MWF 9-9:50 a.m.
W Dec. 16 8-9:50 a.m.

MWF 10-10:50 a.m.
M Dec. 14 10-11:50 a.m.

MWF 11-11:50 a.m.
W Dec. 16 10-11:50 a.m.

MWF 12:30-1:20 p.m.
M Dec. 14 1-2:50 p.m.

MW 9-10:15 a.m.
W Dec. 16 8-9:50 a.m.

MW 10:30-11:45 a.m.
M Dec. 14 10-11:50 a.m.

MW 12:30-1:45 p.m.
M Dec. 14 1-2:50 p.m.

MW 2-3:15 p.m.
W Dec. 16 1-2:50 p.m.

MW 3-4:45 p.m.
M Dec. 14 3-4:50 p.m.

F 10 a.m. - 12:40 a.m.
W Dec. 16 10-11:50 a.m.

T/TH 8-9:15 a.m.
T Dec. 15 8-9:50 a.m.

T/TH 9:30-10:45 a.m.
T Dec. 15 10-11:50 a.m.

T/TH 11 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
TH Dec. 17 10-11:50 a.m.

T/TH 1-2:15 p.m.
T Dec. 15 1-2:50 p.m.

T/TH 2:30-3:45 p.m.
TH Dec. 17 1-2:50 p.m.

T/TH 4-5:15 p.m.
TH Dec. 17 3-4:50 p.m.

T 4-5:40/6:30 p.m.
T Dec. 15 3-4:50 p.m.

W 4-5:40 p.m.
W Dec. 16 3-4:50 p.m.

TH 7-9:30 p.m.
TH Dec. 17 7-8:50 p.m.

M 6-8:40 p.m.
M Dec. 14 6-7:50 p.m.

T 6-8:40 p.m.
T Dec. 15 6-7:50 p.m.

W 6-8:40 p.m.
W Dec. 16 6-7:50 p.m.

TH 6-8:40 p.m.
TH Dec. 17 6-7:50 p.m.

Avila College Student Senate

is looking for students interested in becoming a part of Avila's student government.

Senate has an opening for a Nursing Senator and is also looking for Senate Interns.

Anyone interested in either position should stop by the Student Affairs Office in Marian Center and ask Becky Evans for a Senate Application.

Anyone is encouraged to attend a Senate meeting to find out more, or to discuss campus issues with the Senate.

Senate meets every Thursday from 4 to 5 p.m. in the Barefoot Room in Marian Center.

Cocoa and Carols

Sun., December 6

Concert, 4 p.m.
Foyle Hall

Tree Lighting
Quad

Reception
Alumni Lounge
Marian Center

Sponsored by the
Department of
Humanities, the
Alumni Department
and the Office of
Student Affairs.

Preparation Essential to Finals Success

by JESSE NICHOLS
staff writer

Final's week is quickly approaching for Avila College students. With tested faith and abundant stress, cramming is common. There are some techniques one can use in order to successfully conquer this most dreaded of weeks.

Final exams can take a toll on a person's will, mind and body, so one of the most important things a student can do is to eat and sleep well. This allows the body to simply function better, thus think bet-

ter. These are probably the two most important things, especially a few days before the test.

Another thing students often do is form study groups. Junior Danny Mudge said, "Study groups are often the things that keep you sane during finals week. You see everyone else stressed, and working together cancels out some of that stress, as well as getting more work done."

What some other students do is to simply go to the library and study alone quietly. Junior Terrell Tigner said, "I usually study in the library,

because there are too many distractions if I study with other people."

One final study tip is to create flash cards and study off those. Junior Kari Donnell said, "I use flash cards because it forces me to memorize the information, because most of the finals are essays."

Don't put off studying for finals, or finals week will be an unpleasant experience.

If students need additional help preparing for finals, they should remember that they can go to the Student Resource Center in the lower level of Blasco Hall.

Heavy Pockets For All

by GEOFF TAUL
Features Editor

Holiday jingles can come from some extra pocket change. A booming economy and the holiday season are opening doors for students to sneak in extra cash. These conditions may also mean increased wages for entry-level positions.

"I've had to raise my wages just because I can't find anyone to work," said Rick Jenkins, owner of USA Baby.

Aaron Keeton, the manager of Banana Republic, stated that finding workers has definitely been more competitive this year. That means students who need money during the holidays have more opportunities to find good paying jobs.

As the holiday season approaches, the demand for seasonal workers increases. Retail shops and some restaurants usually hire short-term employees to handle the increase in business.

Wendy Malloy, an employee of the Country Club Plaza Association, confirms that employers on the Plaza do hire seasonal employees.

"Currently, several shops are hiring, including The Limited," Malloy said.

"I would assume that all Banana Republics across Kansas City are hiring for seasonal work," Keeton said.

Students who are staying in town for the semester break with little to do can take advantage of the open positions.

"A lot of workers work during the holidays, then leave, and work again next year," Keeton said. "It works out good for them."

Besides the obvious advantage of rolling some extra dough, you gain the advantages of perhaps finding future employment, and establishing people skills.

"This job is not boring. I get to interact with people daily and get the opportunity to work on communicating with others," said Shanna Cupp, an employee at USA Baby.

Also, as you begin to work, you gain experience which helps you find future employment and makes you more marketable. Keeton said his wages were based on retail experience.

If you are interested in finding seasonal employment, the first place to look is in the classified section of *The Kansas City Star*. To find available positions in a specific location, drive by the stores and check for 'help wanted' signs. In most malls and plazas, shop windows are littered with signs.

Also, if one store does not help you, they may be able to refer you to another. "We use our sister stores, The Gap and Old Navy as references to find employees," said Keeton.

The Final Exam: An Unlikely Scenario

by JESSE NICHOLS
staff writer

It was final exam time in the freshman English course. Two hours was the scheduled amount of time for the exam and blue books were provided. The professor, who was very strict, told the class that any exam that was not on his desk in exactly two hours would not be accepted and the student would fail.

Half an hour into the exam, a student came rushing through the door and asked the professor for an exam booklet. The professor handed the student a booklet and said

sarcastically, "You're not going to have time to finish this."

"Yes I will," replied the student, who then took a seat and began writing. After two hours, the professor called for the exams, and the students filed up and handed them in. All except the tardy student, who continued to write. A half hour expired and the late student approached the professor who was sitting at his desk preparing for his next class. The student attempted to put the exam booklet atop the stack on the desk.

"No you don't, I'm not going to accept that. It's late," said the professor.

The student looked incredulous and angry. "Do you know who I am?" the student demanded.

"No as a matter of fact I don't," replied the professor.

"DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?" the student asked again.

"No, and I don't care," replied the professor with an air of superiority.

"Good," replied the student, who quickly lifted the stack of completed exams, stuffed his in the middle, and walked out of the room.

EDITOR'S NOTE

This probably won't work here at Avila, so just prepare yourself for finals and all will be well.

Avila Students Giving Back to the Community During the Holiday Season

by GEOFF TAUL
Features Editor

Many students return home over Thanksgiving and Christmas breaks. These are times to feast on excessive amounts of food and to exchange gifts with friends and family.

But what if you do not have a home to return to, or a home at all? The less fortunate population in Kansas City needs help from the community to survive through the cold of winter and the holiday season.

"Students don't get the chance to see hunger and poverty," said Fran Betzen, reflecting on her experience while working at a soup kitchen.

Here at Avila and throughout the Kansas City area there are many ways for us to help out.

"In my experience, people want to help," said Sherry Hooper, Director of Community Relations at Harvesters.

Harvesters is a local food bank

that distributes donated food to soup kitchens, homeless shelters and churches that serve the food to people in need. According to Hooper, Harvesters will need 15,000 turkeys to get through the holidays.

Currently Harvesters is collecting turkeys and other donations through two different food drives. "Harvesters Turkey For Every Table," and the "Holiday Turkey Drive" are programs that people or businesses can donate to and be assured that it is for a good cause.

Hooper estimated that \$10 will feed an entire family. Donation sites are at Shoney's restaurants, schools and churches.

Harvesters is not the only Kansas City organization that depends on community donations to help the less fortunate. Toys For Tots, Project Warmth and The Mayor's Christmas Tree Fund are just three organizations that play their part in the community's holiday effort to make life easier for the less fortunate.

Here at Avila, students can and do help in different ways. Over Halloween, all proceeds from the Haunted Tunnels were given to Harvesters. More than two dozen can goods and \$31.50 were raised.

The Social Work Club is planning on adopting two or three families from an agency, then asking for student and faculty help to try and make someone's Christmas a little brighter.

"As an organization we are trying to get people at Avila involved in the community," said Colleen Pleiff, President of the Social Work Club. An ornament tree will be set up in O'Rielly Hall by Nov. 25. Students are welcome to come by and take an ornament, then donate a gift to that particular family. A deadline will be set as to when all donations must be in, either by the agency or Social Work Club.

Student Senate is also looking to a similar program to involve the student body of Avila in helping the community during this holiday season.

THE TALON

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The Talon encourages letters to the editor. Letters should be typed and must include the writer's signature, name, address, and telephone number for verification. Letters can be mailed to *The Talon* Editor, Avila College, 11901 Wornall Road, Kansas City, Mo. 64145, or may be brought to *The Talon* mailbox in Dallavis Center. Letters may also be submitted via e-mail at Talon@mail.avila.edu

Please keep letters to 500 words or less. *The Talon* reserves the right to edit letters for reasons of space, clarity, or inappropriate language.

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Men's Basketball Improving Slowly

by KARI DONNELL
staff writer

The Avila men's basketball team improved their record to 2-3 with a nail-biting victory over Benedictine College Nov. 11. An even battle was fought for two straight halves until the final seconds determined a winner.

The Eagles, up by two, were fouled with 10 seconds left, putting freshman post Curtis Robinson at the free-throw line. Robinson hit the front end of two and sealed the victory 55-52.

Senior guard Isaiah Hultman led offensive efforts with 18 points, 7 assists, and managed to contribute defensively with 5 steals. Junior forward Nat Jones pulled down 7 rebounds in support of the Eagles' run to victory.



An Eagle player finds his way to the basket.

Although the victory was well fought, Head Coach Jim Huber, Jr. and his team are not satisfied. "Right now we have a lot of new faces mixed with veterans and individuals coming off injuries, so we're struggling with an identity," Huber said. "We do have 23 games left and that is plenty of time to thoroughly develop and come together as a team."

Avila opened their season on Nov. 7 with a defeat against Harris-Stowe (85-70), but turned it around with a win against Bethany College (90-74) the next week. The squad's next task was to compete in the Evangel/Central Bible College Classic in Springfield, MO.

Evangel University, the Eagle's first opponent, shot 60 percent from the field and was 13-22 from

"We have to get better with the little things defensively, like blocking out, closing down, and helping."

~ Jim Huber, Jr.

beyond the arc. Avila could not find their rhythm in the start of the second half as they were held scoreless in the first three minutes. The final score was 94-107, but with one day left in the tournament there was still hope of coming home with a win.

Facing a small but aggressive Central Bible College, Avila came out with intensity and enthusiasm. Key steals and hot shooting from guards Bob Turner and Hultman kept the team within one point by half time. The lead slowly deteriorated, however, as fundamental

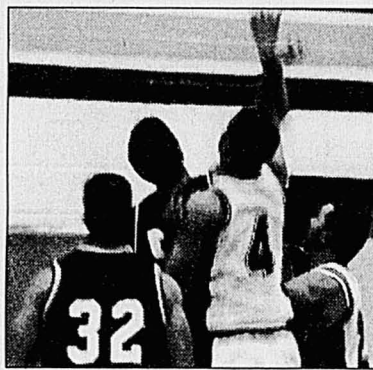
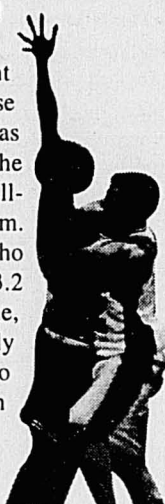
breakdowns in defensive efforts plagued the Eagles.

"We have to get better with the little things defensively, like blocking out, closing down and helping," Huber said. The Eagles came up short with a final of 66-75.

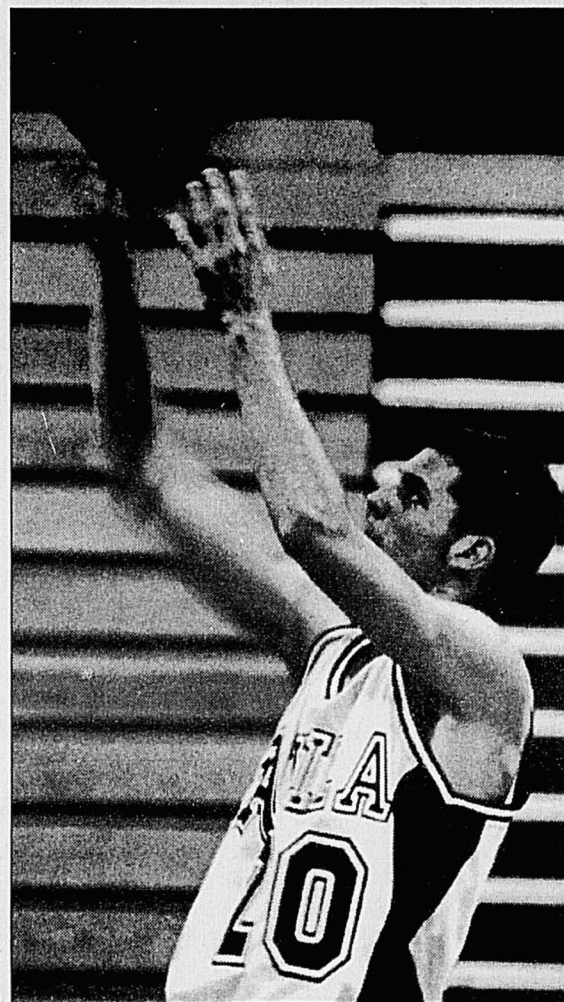
A bright moment did arise as Hultman was honored on the Classic All-Tourney Team. Hultman, who averages 13.2 points a game, was one of only six players to receive such honors.

With continuing contributions from freshman forward Cory Niebert (averaging 14.7 points per game), Robinson (averaging 7 rebounds per game), a plethora of returnees, transfers and other freshman, this year's team is in no need of more talent.

They are currently working

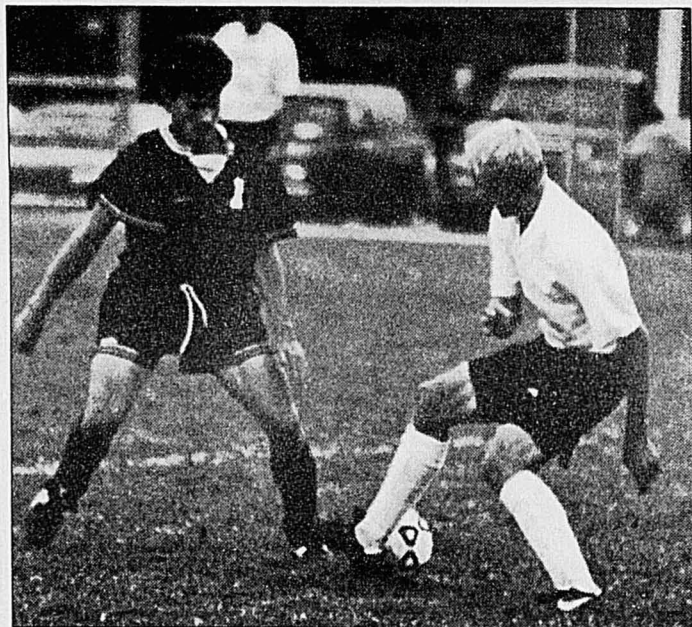


Danny Mudge goes up for a shot.



Freshman Cory Niebert takes a shot during the Eagles' recent game against Bethany College

Photos by Brian L. Stuckey



Tyler Barr battles an opponent during Avila's game against York College.

Men's Soccer Looks to Next Season

Freshman Tyler Barr said, "For a young team we did really well, especially toward the end of the season. We learned to work together as time went on which made us a better team."

Sophomore Ben Chai led the team in goals for the season with senior Tim Barnett following closely behind. Barnett and Chai

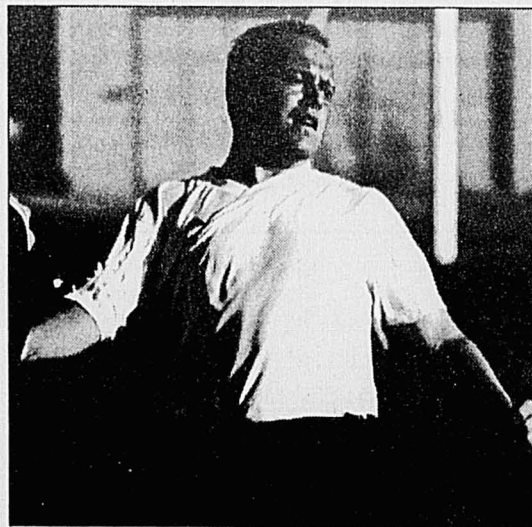
also led the team in assists with eight and six, respectively. Harle was close behind with four assists.

As for the goalkeepers, junior Mike Derting completed the season with 132 shots against 67 saves and 1 shutout.

The men's final game was against Kansas



Mike Muller in the Eagle's Game against York College.



Iestyn Penrose watches his shot.

Newman University, which the Eagles lost 2-0.

Head coach Patrick Phillips said, "It was a great learning experience for myself and the team. I watched us grow from a group of individ-

uals to a bunch of guys playing as a team. Although I was pleased with the result, I am extremely excited for the future of our program."

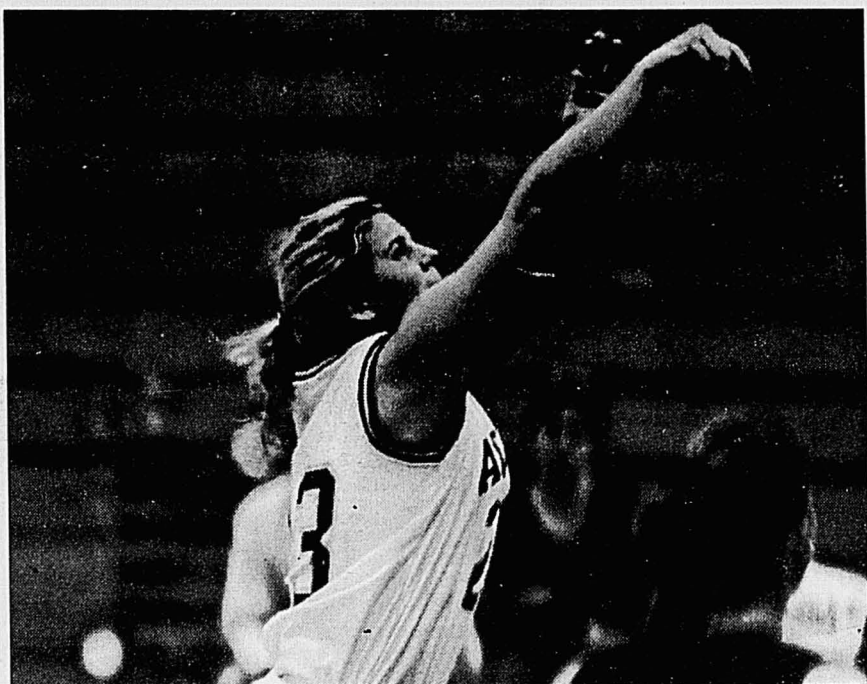
With this season's young team gaining experience, the Avila men's soccer team will be a force to deal with next season.

by KRISTI CLORE
Sports Editor

Even though there is sadness that the season is over, next year's outlook for the Avila men's soccer team is very promising. With eight freshman contributing to both varsity and junior varsity play this season, next year's team will have maturity, experience and growth

which will allow for the men to gain respect from their opponents.

Senior CJ Harle said, "This season has been very tough, but we hung in there. Since we had a lot of young players, and topped that off with a new coach, we knew things were going to be tough. But we hung in there and played very well in our last four games of the season."



Kelly Van Reisen takes a shot during a recent Lady Eagles' home game.

Women's Season Looks Good

by CORY NIBERT
staff writer

The 1998-99 season looks optimistic for the Avila women's basketball team.

The Lady Eagles started their season on October 31 taking on the Avila Alumni.

"The game was a lot of fun," freshman Melissa Fleming said. "It was nice to play a game without having to worry about the outcome of it."

The Eagles opened up their

season Nov. 7 with a home game against Harris-Stowe State College. The Eagles also faced Missouri Baptist College, Missouri Valley College and Ottawa University at home.

With many team strengths and a good base of senior leadership, the Eagles are looking forward to having a very successful season.

"Our team has good unity and we have a lot of quickness and depth," Fleming said. "We also have very good shooters."

Senior Maryam Malone said, "We are quick, deep, we rebound well, and our transition game is

good."

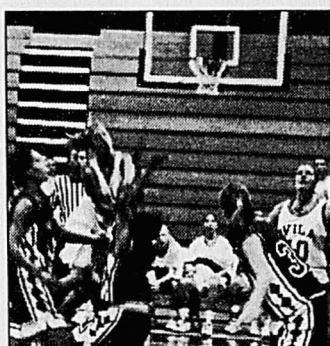
The team does have points that they are working to improve as the season progresses.

"We think too much, which results in frustration," Fleming said. "We need to work harder and concentrate better."

Strong leadership is part of what is making the Lady Eagles a strong team.

"Kristi Clore, Kari Donnel and Kelly Van Riessen are the team captains and they do a good job of keeping us together and making sure we do the right things on and off the court," Fleming said.

The Eagles will take on Stephens College at home on Nov. 30. They then host William Woods University on Dec. 3 for their next home game.



Senior Kelly Schnepf battles with an opponent on the court.

Volleyball Season Comes to an End

by RYAN GLASGOW
staff writer

"This year has been a good year for learning and growing. I am looking forward to next year," said freshman Sarah Hall.

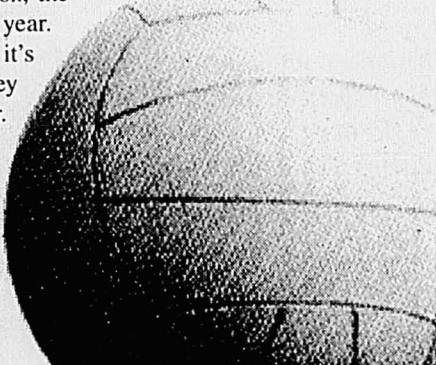
The Lady Eagles Volleyball team went into the conference tournament in the sixth seed on Nov 13 and 14. Head coach Melonie Roberts was content with her team's place and said the team was staying confident going into the tournament.

The ladies started off against the number three seed Newman University.

With the close of this season, the team begins to build for next year.

Though the team will lose its strong leading seniors, they have hopes of a good year.

An important factor is the freshman players who received plenty of playing time this season and are doing well. This will be important for the future of Avila's team.



Women's Soccer Team Falls One Game Short of Playoffs

by STEVE TUCKER
staff writer

The Avila College women's soccer season came to a crashing end recently as the Eagles lost to conference foe Bellevue University.

The Eagles put their post season hopes on the line, needing a win over Bellevue to advance into the conference playoffs. The Eagles were able to dominate early play in the game, but were unsuccessful in holding off their opponents in the second half.

goals," said Head Coach Jeff Randolph.

Morrison was also honored as Conference Player of the Week in the MCAC, along with teammates Anna-Lisa Criswell, Corey Brown and Amy Pokorney, who won the award twice.

Brown, Pokorney, Morrison and Kelly Umscheid were named to the Honorable Mention MCAC All-Conference Team. Senior Anna-Lisa Criswell set a record of her own by becoming the first women's soccer player at Avila to earn First Team All-Conference honors.

Randolph felt the season was a tremendous success. He said, "We had numerous surprises this year. The biggest surprise was allowing the fewest goals ever at Avila. I didn't expect to have such a tough defense. Another pleasant surprise was the way the team came together. They really gelled well together and protected each until the end. That really just makes my heart proud, because you can't ask for more than that. It's a groovy thing."

The Eagles will return many key players next season, but will have to replace five key seniors: Corey Brown, Jaime Bishop, Marion Wright, Anna-Lisa Criswell and Amy Pokorney. Randolph knows this will be no small task.

"Next year we have to replace some of the seniors, some of which are almost irreplaceable. The talent pool is looking really good for next year and I expect our recruitment to go well. I am excited about it," Randolph said.

Randolph has his team prepared for off-season workouts. He said, "This off-season I am preaching to



Chrissy Webb watches for the ball during one of Avila's final games.

Avila came out strong in the second half, but the momentum quickly switched in favor of Bellevue as Mary Quarando's shot was saved by the Bellevue goalkeeper. Bellevue then blasted home the first goal of the game on a free kick, just outside of the penalty area. Less than two minutes later, Bellevue struck again, scoring its second goal of the half on a turnover by the Avila defense. Bellevue added a late goal to end the game with a 3-0 victory over the Eagles.

The game marked the end of a brilliant season for the Eagles, who finished the year with a 10-5-1 record. Several school records were broken throughout the season including: best season record, best conference finish, longest winning streak, fewest goals allowed and goals per game.

Tracy Friedeck set an individual record by recording an average of .45 shutouts per game. Lanette Morrison put her name in the Avila record books by netting six game winning goals throughout the season. Morrison led the team in most offensive categories finishing the year with 17 goals.

"The great thing about her is that when you score a lot of goals like Lanette did early in the season, teams start to target you, a lot of games teams would just mark up on her. That was wonderful for us because we didn't care if they only concentrated on marking her. We have so many people who can score goals on this team and we proved that by scoring lots of



Lanette Morrison shoots between two opponents.

the girls that they need to just go out and play. A lot of times that is the only way to get better. We will be playing in a men's indoor soccer league, which helps develop better quickness and a more physical style of play. We will also be doing weight and speed training," said Randolph.

Having had four coaches at the school in five years, Randolph is also proud of his own individual record "I was really happy to set another record in that I am the only coach, in the short history of Avila Women's soccer, who has come back for a second season. This is a great job benefit, because I work full time here at Avila and most people in advertising agencies don't get to coach college ball. I have a great time out there."

Kansas City Still Supporting the Chiefs

by Geoff Taul
Features Editor

High expectations were placed on the Kansas City Chiefs at the beginning of the 1998/99 season. This was the year Kansas City would win the big one.

Several weeks into the season and all expectations became afterthoughts, as the Chiefs are struggling to finish the season with a record above .500. What went wrong?

Numerous areas on the Chiefs '98 football team have been blamed for their lack of winning. The offense needs a running back, Elvis Grbac is a bust, they can't score touchdowns, Marty is too conservative. Or, how about the defense has had too many injuries, they can't stop the run, penalties have killed them, Derrick Thomas is overrated, etc.

The points of blame are endless, as are the solutions constantly

offered by fans. However, trying to figure this team out right now is a waste of time. They have made this season difficult to sit through. As one Kansas City citizen said when asked what is wrong with the Chiefs, "Who cares? They stink."

"Who cares?"

...They stink."

~ Kansas City citizen

Kansas City was ecstatic for the NFL season to begin. Derrick Thomas and *Kansas City Star* columnists were running their mouths about a 16 and 0 season. Virtually everyone in Kansas City had jumped onto the Chiefs bandwagon.

Those hopes are long gone by now. So what are the people of Kansas City doing to entertain themselves?

"I'm just thankful that KU basket-

ball has started. Now I dedicate myself to the Jayhawks," Jeff Chambers, a disgruntled Chiefs fan, said.

Many fans have lost interest in the Chiefs, no longer making them an integral part of their week. But surprisingly, many fans are still cheering for the Chiefs.

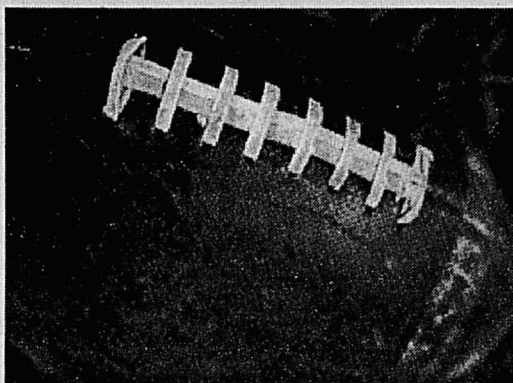
Jake Lindmark, a ticket broker for Ticket Solutions, said that Chiefs tickets are still in just as high of demand now as they were at the beginning of the season.

"I haven't seen a loss of interest in the Chiefs," Lindmark said.

With their current record, the playoffs are not impossible for the Chiefs, but very unlikely. However, Kansas

City remains proud of their football team, and with good reason. For eight of the past 10 seasons, the Chiefs have provided post-season play, and are the most successful team of the 1990s.

Kansas City is a football city other cities envy. Only patience will provide the super bowl championship that is shortly coming.



Chiefs 1998 Schedule

November

29 Sun. Arizona Cardinals
at Arrowhead, noon

December

6 Sun. at Denver Broncos
3:15 p.m.
13 Sun. Dallas Cowboys
at Arrowhead 3:15 p.m.
20 Sun. at New York Giants
12:00 noon
26 Sat. at Oakland Raiders
3:15 p.m.

Chiefs web site www.kccchiefs.com

Spirit Squad Tryouts

Sunday, December 6

from 3 - 4 P.M.

Individuals interested in trying out for the Spirit Squad must attend a clinic on Saturday, December, 5
1 - 4 P.M.

The Spirit Squad Clinic and Tryouts are located in lower Marian Center.

For more information

contact Mindy at 943-5230.

If you are unable to attend any part of the tryout contact Mindy and other arrangements will be made.

Please wear comfortable clothes and shoes to dance in !!



Avila Spirit squad members Katie Boyle, Becky Wywadis and Mindy Corder

Senior Spotlight



Stacey Clark

photo courtesy
Community Relations

by KRISTI CLORE
Sports Editor

Have you ever had an embarrassing moment that is just too hard to forget? Well, just in case you haven't, this edition's spotlight shines on someone who would like to share her embarrassing memory.

It started in seventh grade, her first career basketball game. She had just fouled an opponent and the referee made a mistake and put her on the line to shoot for the foul she committed. To make things worse, she was shooting at the wrong end

of the court while her dad yelled out, "Nice try Stacey!"

Stacey Clark transferred to Avila from Mid-America Nazarene

I would like to thank God for the talent and opportunities that he has blessed me with. I would also like to thank my parents for all their support.

~Stacey Clark

University to finish her last year of eligibility in basketball.

Clark is currently a fifth-year

senior majoring in Elementary Education and plans to graduate in the fall of 1999 and then to hopefully start her career off by teaching third or fourth grade students.

Being a fifth-year senior allows her to still be involved in collegiate athletics (due to NAIA rules). Clark contributed to the Lady Eagles volleyball team this season as an outside hitter.

Looking back on this year's volleyball season, Clark said, "It has been a lot of ups and downs, but the good thing is that we have grown more as a team."

Clark can easily be spotted driving her red and white 1986 GMC pickup truck. This country girl's favorite song is "I Cross My Heart" by George Strait and her favorite movie is *Rainman*. When she was a child, Clark looked up to her father because he always said what he felt, he cared about other people, and he always spoiled her.

Clark said, "I would like to thank God for the talent and opportunities that he has blessed me with. I would also like to thank my parents for all their support."

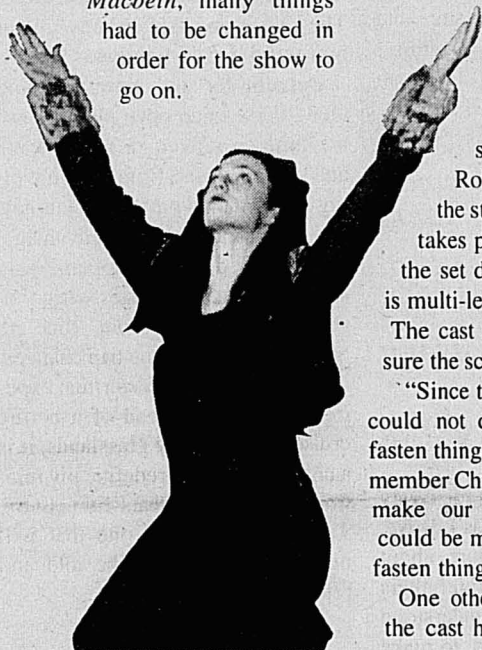


Richard Delgado, Mike Muller, and Robert Martin look on as Paul Kilgore reads a declaration.

by KRISTEN REESE
staff writer

Overcoming the myths that surround the play *Macbeth* has brought Avila theater students to a better understanding of what the professional world would be like.

For the production of *Macbeth*, many things had to be changed in order for the show to go on.



Erin Shelton as Lady Macbeth

The theater space is the most apparent difficulty. Since the theater department is renting out the space at the Business Technology Association building, at 12411 Wornall Road, there are certain things that required adjustment.

The stage concept had to be changed.

"The play is about the seduction of evil. If you give into the evil it snowballs," said *Macbeth* director Robert Foulk. "I altered the stage concept to one that takes place on a cave setting, the set does not change, and it is multi-level."

The cast and crew had to make sure the scenery was transferable.

"Since the stage is not ours we could not do certain things, like fasten things to the floor," said cast member Chris Gleeson. "We had to make our own platforms, so it could be moveable, and we could fasten things to the platforms."

One other disadvantage is that the cast had rehearsals in many

different places. They were not able to use the BTA space until two weeks before performance. The communication between the cast and crew had to be extremely good. Foulk had to know how to get in contact with his cast, since Goppert was not a common meeting ground.

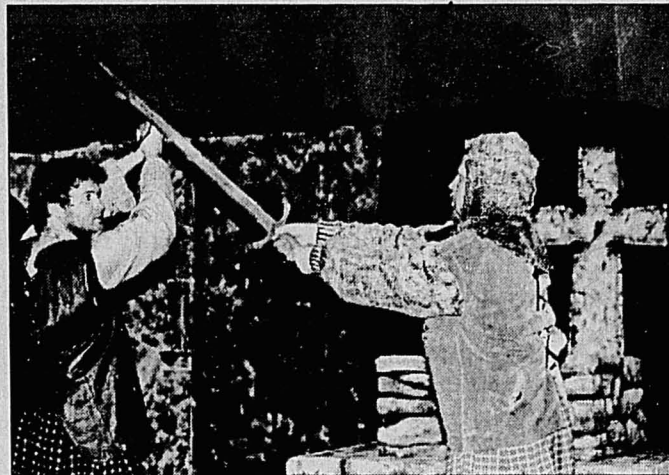
The advantage is that they used the whole theater space.

"We used all the entrance ways, they go through the house, which is more exciting for the audiences," said assistant stage manager Melissa Villanueva.

"Everyone in the cast is excited and looking forward to the show," said cast member Katie Johnson.

"It will be a magnificent theater experience."

Overcoming the Myth of *Macbeth*



Macbeth (Chris Holler) and MacDuff (Mike Derting) fight to the death.

photos by Brian L. Stuckey



The three witches keep watch. Portrayed by Jen Kiple, Althea Conyers, and Katie Johnson.



Mario Torres and John McGinnis in *Macbeth*.



Michael Kruse in his latest role in the performance of *Macbeth*. Kruse has been in many Avila shows in his four years with the Theater Department.

Cruising Toward Graduation

by JENNIFER HOMEDALE
staff writer

Senior Michael Kruse first came to Avila for its Med Tech program, but three weeks into school, decided theater would be his path. Even though that phone call home to Plainville, KS came as a shock to his family, they were supportive of his major change. Kruse has been dedicated to theater ever since.

His love for acting turned to directing his junior year, with his second directing class. After he directed a scene from David Mamet's one-act play, *Edmund*, he learned the director is responsible for taking the words and bringing them to life, shaping the concept of the play.

"I'm a collaborative director. I believe in sharing concepts, having people add things," Kruse said.

He compared the development of a play to creating some sort of being. First comes the skeleton, it's

your foundation. Then you add muscles and tendons. Each step brings the play to life. With the flesh slipped on, the lights come up on opening night, and the play dances on stage.

"There is no feeling like opening night. The director has no more control and has to let go. I'm on the edge of my seat the entire performance," Kruse said.

Kruse played the Scottish doctor in the Avila showing of *Macbeth*, as well as working as master electrician behind the scenes.

In addition, he stays busy working on his senior project. He will direct a 30-minute play of monologues written by Joyce Carol Oates. In *I Stand Before You Naked*, six women stand before the audience and give little pieces of their lives. "In that glimmer, we understand their lives and who they are," Kruse said.

He thought this would be an ideal play for his senior project. "I wanted to incorporate multimedia ele-

ments and after kicking it around with Mike Adams, I decided I'd never get a chance to do this again," Kruse said. With Adams as the visual designer, Kruse started working on the play this summer. He has already cast most of the roles and Kruse hopes to open on March 26, his birthday.

Kruse lived on campus his first three years at Avila. One of his best memories came his first year. On March 25, he and his friends in Carondelet got into a water fight in the dorm. "We threw huge cups of water at each other," Kruse said. Then he waited for midnight, until he would be 19. He remains close with many in the Avila community.

Looking ahead to graduation, Kruse said he realizes how thankful he is to everyone who helped with his walk through college. After graduation, he is considering a master's program or work and auditions. However, right now he's keeping all his options open.

ARTS AT AVILA
1998 Senior Show Exhibition

OPENING RECEPTION:

December 11, 1998
AT THORNHILL GALLERY
FROM 7:00 - 9:00 P.M.

Gallery Hours:

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
10:00 A.M. - NOON & 1:00 - 5:00 P.M.

Donald Alfieri DRAWING/PAINTING

Jeff Henry GRAPHIC DESIGN

Terra Teevan GRAPHIC DESIGN

THORNHILL GALLERY

ADMISSION IS FREE

Film Series Focuses On Violence

by DEBORAH WRIGHT
staff writer

How many times have you felt that individuals caught in a cycle of violence should simply walk away? Have you ever asked a parent why they allow their children to live within the confines of an abusive relationship? Many times people become so dedicated to the purpose of eradicating physical abuse, they fail to see that violence can also be emotional and mental.

The Fall Film Series, "Degrees of Violence," examined varying forms of abuse. Prior to each screening, a brief introduction of the film and filmmaker, as well as significant motifs and other elements to observe while viewing was introduced. Post discussions sparked further concerns and interests of Avila attendees and community guests. There is no better way to carve a path to learning and understanding.

The purpose of the '98 Fall Film Series is to raise awareness that violence is not always visible. By upgrading our level of conscious-

ness, we can begin to recognize the extent and seriousness of abusive behavior. The focus of the series coordinates with the Level IV Senior Capstone Experience, "Liberation From Violence."

Joining forces to coordinate film topics, themes, times and material to be covered requires input of faculty members from Women's Studies, Communications and Student Life. Coordinators Doty Hamilton, Ben Meade, Nancy Cervetti and Blake Fry are instrumental in ensuring that the film series is a success. The Film Series is currently funded by Avila's Fee Board.

Past themes have included Women and Romance and Women of East Indian Culture. "Bandit Queen" and "Ninth Street" are considered the two films that have provoked the most conversation. "Bandit Queen" created a stir because of a variety of answers to the question, "When, if ever, is revenge justified?" Violent scenes contained in "Ninth Street" initiated a variety of discussions on the treatment of women, gangsters and men caught in the aftermath of the

Vietnam war. To further fuel the conversation, independent filmmaker Kevin Wilmont was on hand to shed light on the depiction of specific characters and their personas.

Moving into its third year, the film series hopes to continue presenting films that reflect diverse opinions, lifestyles and issues. Topics chosen will consistently urge the audience to think critically. The selected theme for the Spring '99 Film Series will be social justice. "When We Were Kings", a documentary about Mohammed Ali's life, will be shown in recognition of Black History Month. "Mothers Sons", will be featured during Women's Month. Filmgoers can also see "The Band Played On", a story about AIDS and AIDS research.

All Avila Film Series presentations are sure to capture the audience while providing a closer look at pressing issues facing both American culture and the global community. Violence is merely one slice of the pie.

Searching for America

by MICHAEL ADAMS
Arts & Entertainment Editor

Searching for America sounds simple. I'm pretty sure of where the U.S. is and where I am as well. But if I know where it is, then the search is over and this column is a waste of space. The operative word is *searching*. Like one of King Arthur's quests, the destination isn't as important as the trip.

The idea occurred to me one day while I was driving through Kansas. I saw expansive green knolls all the way to the horizon. Some trees littered the skyline. A few cows were dotted here and there. And then it struck me, there behind the wheel of my old, beat-up sedan, that things weren't always this way.

Two hundred years ago, that highway didn't exist. Traveling was limited to horses. The three-hour trip I was on would last about a week. I would have to stop and camp out, live off the land while I went. There were no fences, no semi trucks, and no speed limits.

I understood the incredible will these brave pioneers must've had to pack up everything they were and head west for a new life.

On the surface, this is a relatively simple conclusion. But, as I drove, I thought more and more about this. I thought about our forefathers and Manifest Destiny. I understood the drive to own the land, to make it ours.

I thought about the incredible discoveries to the west—the Rocky Mountains, the Grand Canyon and finally the shores of the Pacific Ocean. I understood the incredible will these brave pioneers must've had to pack up everything they were and head west for a new life.

Of course, now we have freeways so we can go faster. We have auto-

The traveling is an integral part of the journey and I try to use it to my advantage.

matic windows so we can keep the outside world away from us. The drive across Kansas is a chore now, something we have to do during vacations. In a metaphysical sense, the value of the land is decreased. The land is an obstacle between our home and our destination.

But not for me. Now, traveling along these wide open plains, I use the time to reflect on where I am and where I came from. The traveling is an integral part of the journey, and I try to use it to my advantage. Making good time, as Robert Persig said, completely changes when you shift the emphasis from 'time' to 'good.' The feel of the trip changes.

Hitting the road is a spiritual experience for me. Instead of a boring cruise across empty grasslands, it is a chance for me to redefine my relationship with our beautiful country. This kind of trip is one that will never end, a story to be told and retold.

Research Needed

Women who have been or are currently addicted to alcohol and who are willing to be interviewed for research should contact

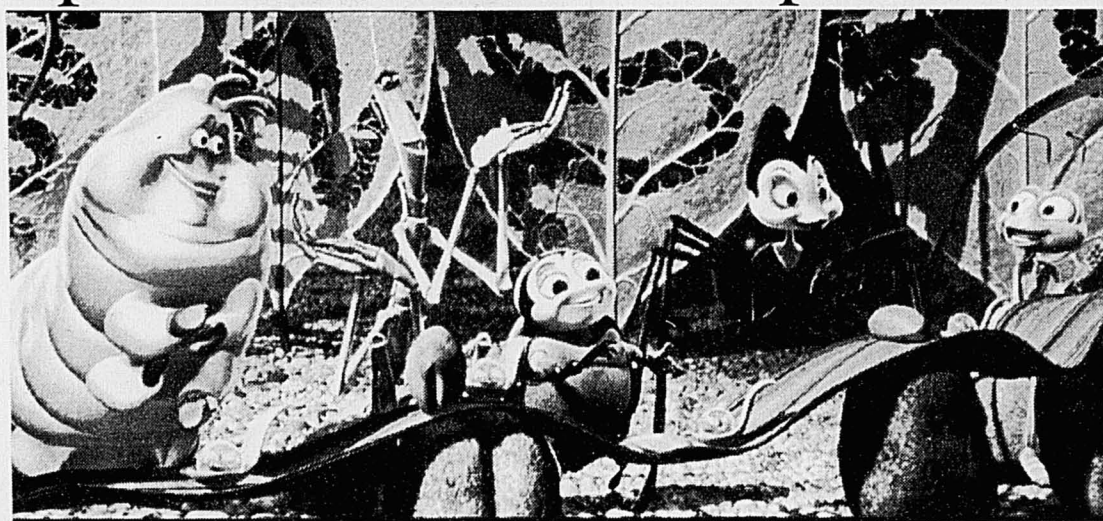
Book Research !

Dr. Cathy Bogart

Ext.2392

Confidentiality for research will be strictly observed

Epic of Miniature Proportions Hits The Big Screen



After soaring to "infinity and beyond" with the landmark 1995 computer-animated feature, "Toy Story," Walt Disney Pictures and Pixar Animation Studios zoom down to earth and below for an exciting new adventure filled with fun and fantasy with their groundbreaking second feature, *A Bug's Life*.

With its unique blend of outrageous comedy, heartwarming characters and dazzling visual displays,

this "epic of miniature proportions" unfolds in a fantastic never-before-seen world of bugs of every shape and size.

Life is no picnic for the ants on Ant Island. Each summer, a gang of greedy grasshoppers, led by the menacing and manipulative Hopper, descends upon the colony to demand a hefty portion of the ants' hard-earned harvest and generally make life miserable for this peaceful community.

Our hero Flik, an original thinker out of step with the rest of the more traditionally minded colony, takes it upon himself to get outside help and mistakenly enlists an unemployed troupe of bug performers from a second rate

flea circus to join the fight against the grasshoppers.

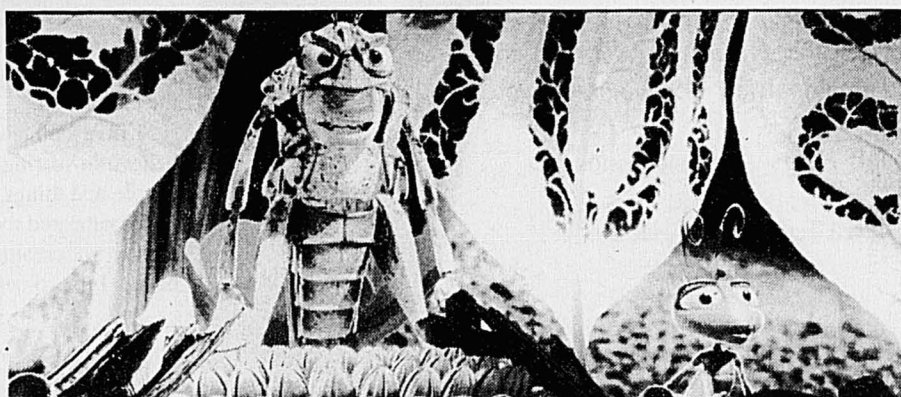
When Flik's plan starts to unravel, the action and comedy turn fast and furious as he attempts to save the colony and his reputation.

Walt Disney Pictures presents a Pixar Animation Studios film, *A Bug's Life* voice cast includes Dave Foley, Kevin Spacey, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Hayden Panettiere, Phyllis Diller, Richard Kind, David Hyde Pierce, Denis Leary, Jonathan Harris, Madeline Kahn, Bonnie Hunt, Michael McShane, John Ratzenberger, Roddy McDowall, Edie McClurg, Alex Rocco and



David Ossman.

A Bug's Life opens nationwide on Wednesday, Nov. 25.



Enemy of the State In Theaters

An intelligent, fast paced action thriller, *Enemy of the State* is the story of a rogue government agent's efforts against an innocent man who unwittingly possesses



information implicating him in the death of a U.S. congressman.

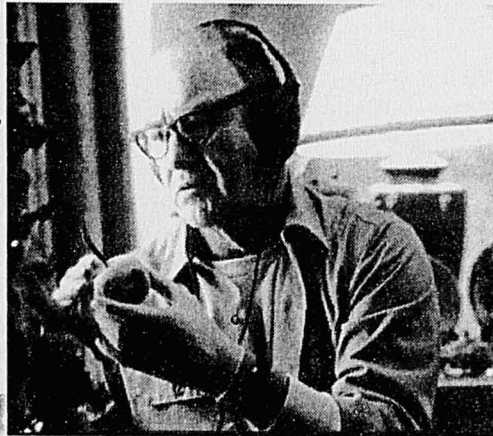
A chance encounter with an old friend destroys attorney Robert Clayton Dean's (Will Smith) fast-track career and happy home life when he inadvertently becomes entangled with a corrupt intelligence official. As an administrator on loan from the State Department to the National Security Agency, Thomas Brian Reynolds (Jon Voight) appropriates the vast resources of his department to

commit the perfect crime and conceal a political cover up of immense proportions. Dean's only hope to reclaim his life is through a man he's never met, a mysterious underground information broker and ex-intelligence operative known only as Bill (Gene Hackman).

Rounding out the cast are actors Regina King,

Loren Dean, Jake Busey, Barry Pepper, Gabriel Byrne, Tom Sizemore, Lisa Bonet, Jamie Kennedy, Ian Hart, Scott Caan and Jack Black.

Enemy of the State opened Friday, Nov. 20.



Swingtime Canteen Christmas Doesn't Stand Out

by DEREK KILGORE
staff writer

Nostalgia is the catch phrase for "Swingtime Canteen," the American Heartland Theatre production that opened Friday, Nov. 8.

The story takes places in 1944. Revolving around Marian Ames, an actress who has endured four films that all flopped at the theaters. But it is 1944, and there is no time for self-pity when there is a war to deal with. Marian gathers up her musical friends from the Hollywood Canteen and heads for London to entertain the troops.

The show includes songs like "Don't Fence Me In," and "I'll Be Seeing You," as well as a 12-song Andrews Sisters medley.

This show reminded me of so many others I have seen, as well as numerous movies with the same content. I cannot recommend this show to many people, including the general Avila audience. I thought that it was slow moving in many places, and the songs were rather irritating.

Michael Voddell directs a cast of actors I have never heard of that includes Patty Tiffany, K.J. Johnson and Jennifer Mays. The show runs through Jan. 10. For more information, call the American Heartland Theatre's box office at 842-9999.

3 DIMENSIONAL DESIGN STUDENTS



Ching-Yao Lin



Amy Young



Patrick Downton

The art students of Lisa Ann Sugimoto's Three Dimensional Design class are in the process of rigorously constructing eight-foot totem poles resembling each individual's personality.



Terra Teevan



LeAnn Hollis

photos courtesy of LeAnn Hollis

art & entertainment

On for the Long Ride Presented at Thornhill Gallery

by ROSSANA VALLAZZA
staff writer

On Nov. 6, drawings and sculptures by artist and high school teacher Pal Wright were presented at Thornhill Gallery. Titled, *On for the Long Ride*, Wright's work can be seen until Dec. 4.

Wright was on hand to answer any questions about his work at an artist's reception on Nov. 6.

George Chrisman, Thornhill Gallery Curator, said he likes it when students attend art shows.

"It is good exposure for students to come to the gallery," Chrisman said. "They get to meet and talk with the artists and ask questions about his/her style."

Currently, Wright teaches ceramics and drawing at Olathe South High School. An art teacher for 37 years, Wright said he still has a few

more years of teaching to do.

"His students' works are phenomenal," Chrisman said. "They learn so much from him, and he is inspired by them. It's reflected in his work."

Several years ago, a 67-year-old woman signed up for one of his drawing classes at a university. She simply wanted to learn how to draw. After completing Wright's class, she quickly became Kansas' most famous artist.

Known to Wright as an eager student named Elizabeth Latham, she is better known to the art world as Grandma Latham. Her work has been exhibited at the Nelson Atkins Museum of Art as well as the Smithsonian.

Wright began drawing as a young child. His interest in art began with a simple chalkboard that he received as a Christmas gift one

year. Drawing pictures on the chalkboard became a favorite pastime, and as he got older, super heroes and fancy cars were his subjects on paper.

Now, Wright concentrates on pottery and drawings. He describes his pottery as "having no function."

"I like abstract symbolism and basic ideas," he said. "I like to invent things to go with the figures I sculpt, and the environment of the setting is abstract."

His pastel and charcoal drawings differ from his pottery, which consists of still-life drawings and nudes.

The title of his first show at Avila, *On for the Long Ride*, came from one of his sculptures of a figure sitting on an abstract vehicle. Wright said the figure's meaning was, "on for the long ride (of life) and wishing for survivorship."

Movie Review

Living Out Loud An Uncompelling Love Story

by GEOFF TAUL
Features Editor

When two lonely individuals run across each other, they form a strange relationship.

Starring Danny Devito, Holly Hunter, and Queen Latifah, "Living Out Loud" is an uncompelling love story.

At the beginning of the movie, Devito and Hunter are two people who are experiencing the loss of someone close to them. Hunter's husband leaves her for another woman, and Devito loses his daughter to a fatal illness.

Living with his brother, working as an elevator operator and deep in gambling debts, Devito does not have much without his daughter. In fact, his life is quite pathetic.

Hunter, on the other hand, resides in an impressive apartment she kept from the divorce, in the same building Devito works in.

However, Hunter is just as lonely as Devito, despite her more respectable lifestyle. In an intoxicated state, Hunter strikes up a conversation with her elevator operator.

From this point on, each enjoys

the company of the other but both in different ways. Throw Queen Latifah into the mix of loneliness, and the three work together to recapture their lives.

With good performances by Holly Hunter and especially Danny Devito, the movie is worth seeing. The movie is helped along by the subtle comedy, but at times no emotion is felt for any characters.

"Living Out Loud" is currently playing at the Ward Parkway Artplex.

Jonathan Taylor Thomas Comes Home For Christmas



Jonathan Taylor Thomas stars as Jake Wilkins, a self-absorbed college student, who, just days before Christmas awakens to find himself stranded in the middle of the

California Desert, wearing a Santa suit and a white beard glued to his face.

The butt of a payback by the football team who thinks he double-crossed them by not providing the correct answers to a final exam,

Jake has to find a way to get to New York by 6 p.m. Christmas Eve, and catch up with his girlfriend Allie (Jessica Biel), who is on the road with the school stud

Eddie (Adam La Vorgna), or risk losing the vintage Porsche his father (Gary Cole) promised if his son comes home for the holidays. As Jake desperately hitchhikes



his way east, everyone he meets unwittingly sets into motion a comedy of errors as they look to Santa for help and advice, in Walt Disney Pictures' comedy *I'll Be Home For Christmas*.

I'll Be Home For Christmas opened nationwide on Nov. 13.



Horoscopes

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

Watch those spending habits. Just because you may be spending the money on someone else, that doesn't change the fact that you don't have it to spend. Look for the alternatives. Take the chance for a vacation, it won't be offered again soon.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You've been thinking about that choice for months now. You know what your decision is, you just need to get up the courage to act on it. The longer you put it off, the more painful it will end up being.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

Take on some extra projects. The season is reviving you and you have the energy to get it done. Look for some indoor activities when the weather makes your usual outdoor routine impossible.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 20)

You weren't ready for the experience you had last week. Don't freak out about it, give yourself time to consider how you really feel about the event. Relieve some of the stress you've got building up, or you're going to have to take some serious time off.

Aries (March 21 - April 19)

You've been laying all your hopes on upcoming travel plans. Things may not work out the way you've planned; others don't share your excitement, though you've thought they did. Don't let yourself get too upset if things don't turn out.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20)

That former enemy has been friendly. It doesn't necessarily mean that they're trying to take advantage of you. They might honestly be trying to become friends. Consider that option, don't miss the opportunity you may be offered.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)

You're getting lazy on a lot of things. You need to spend some time thinking and focusing to figure out where you're headed. That should help give you the motivation to get back on track with those projects and that exercise routine.

Cancer (June 21 - July 22)

Health problems will be a setback for you this month. It's too late for you to do anything about it, so try not to let it get you down mentally. You'll be back on your feet by the time the Christmas festivities roll around. In the middle of the bad news, you will receive a financial windfall.

Leo (July 23 - Aug. 22)

You need to get that all-important Christmas shopping done early. This year you can't put it off until the last minute. Something else, spurred by an outside force, will be occupying all of your time later, leaving you with no chance to get to the store.

Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)

A secret you thought had finally died will come back to haunt you once again, this time more significantly than ever. You can't get rid of the problem by denying or ignoring it. You'll have to face up to the truth and let people know you aren't the saint you claim to be. Explain to a friend your reasons for wanting to put it behind you.

Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)

You've had a rough month, but that's behind you now. Let go and have some fun. Watch out for one peer who's being overly nice, they have their motives, and they aren't concerned with you. Enjoy some mild weather before winter sets in.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

Buckle down a little. You've been having fun, and it's kept you from being stressed out like everyone else, but now deadlines are approaching and you need to get that work done. Remember, after these three big projects, it'll be time for fun again.